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The Kentucky Warbler

Volume XIII WINTER 1937 No. 1

This, our 1937 Winter number, comes to you a trifle later than we had planned but the catastrophe that struck Kentucky towns in January paralyzed many businesses and set us back approximately one month. But it is still winter here. Everything still seems to be snugged down. The woodchuck paths, that not long ago were traveled, are now vacant. Tradition has it that their makers will peer out of their dens this month to see what the prospects for an early spring will be. On the second of February, those who could get their heads above water, peered out and saw their shadows. Six more weeks of winter!

No time is better for the amateur bird student to begin his or her studies than around this time of the year. Concealing foliage is gone; nests from last season appear; species are few, many tamer than at other times. All of our permanent residents are easily identified and learned. In addition, we have many winter visitors from the north with the ever-appealing chance of a newcomer for the life list; not too many, but just enough to draw us into the white woods.

Some of the owls are nesting. Robins are appearing on the lawns. Those of us who run feeding stations are still attracting the customers and our bird banders are reaping the harvest of many catches. We may feel a slight touch of spring on certain days but—it surely is still winter. We want it that way. We bird folks still have problems to solve when we won't be confused with the great tide of the spring migrants and the return of our summer residents. We like to think of the words of the beloved John Burroughs:—

"From out the white and pulsing storm
  I hear the snowbirds calling;
The sheeted winds stalk o'er the hills,
  And fast the snow is falling.

"On twinkling wings they eddy past,
  At home amid the drifting,
Or seek the hills and weedy fields
  Where fast the snow is sifting.

"The unmown fields are their preserves,
  Where weeds and grass are seeding;
They know the lure of distant stacks
  Where houseless herds are feeding."

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KENTUCKY WARBLER'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CENSUS

Although the response to our appeal for Christmas Census was very good, with eleven returns, we were somewhat disappointed in not having any from the Eastern part of the State. However, as we are gradually extending our membership in that direction, we hope to have many fine reports from that section in future issues.

The palm for the highest number of species, fifty, goes to the energetic bunch from Bowling Green, Ky., headed by the redoubtable Dr. Gordon Wilson. The Louisville crowd, aided by the enormous flocks of Starlings from the heart of the city, had the most individuals with 6057, 4565 of which were the imported visitors.

The second best census, forty-eight species, came from W. M. Walker, Jr., and Sue R. Walker, in Hopkinsville. The summary for the entire state as appearing in the reports, show a total of seventy-six species, numbering approximately 17,204 individuals.

The editor takes this opportunity of thanking the workers for their splendid co-operation and urges all of them to make plans even now for the next one, preferably in the same territories.

* * * * * *

Paducah, Kentucky (along Ohio River near Paducah, Priester's Lake and rolling upland around Massac Creek Area) December 21, 1936. 6:30 A. M. to 4:30 P. M., clear; wind, none; temperature 30° at start, 55° at return. 45 miles by auto, six miles on foot; observer alone.

Great Blue Heron	2	Duck 12 Sp. ?	
Canvasback	3	Cooper's Hawk	1
Red-tailed Hawk	1	Sparrow Hawk	1
Bob-white (3 covies)	32	Killdeer	3
Herring Gull	12	Mourning Dove	20
Flicker	13	Red-bellied Woodpecker	4
Hairy Woodpecker	2	Downy Woodpecker	13
Prairie Horned Lark	21	Blue Jay	14
Crow	20	Carolina Chickadee	12
Tufted Titmouse	20	Brown Creeper	1
Winter Wren	1	Carolina Wren	7
Mockingbird	3	Robin	11
Hermit Thrush	2	Bluebird	7
Golden Crowned Kinglet	1	Migrant Shrike	1
Starling	8	English Sparrow	45
Meadowlark	13	Redwing	8
Cowbird	15	Cardinal	40
Purple Finch	14	Goldfish	9
Red-eyed Towhee	13	Slate-colored Junco	175
Tree Sparrow	120	White-crowned Sparrow	5
White-throated Sparrow	13	Fox Sparrow	1
Swamp Sparrow	1	Song Sparrow	18

Total 45 species. About 738 individuals.

RAYMOND J. FLEETWOOD,
Jr. Biologist
Soil Conservation Service,
Paducah, Ky.

Summer Shade, Dec. 25.—9:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M.; an area with a radius of a mile and a half, with Summer Shade as a center. Sky clear in morning, cloudy in afternoon; light wind. Temp. at start 50, at return 60. Turkey Vulture, 5; Black Vulture, 1; Marsh Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Broad-winged Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bob-white, 6; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Southern Downy Woodpecker, 4; Pileated Woodpecker, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 6; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 7; Flicker, 3; Blue Jay, 5; Crow, 27; Carolina Chickadee, 11; Tufted Titmouse, 18; White-breasted Nuthatch, 5; Carolina Wren, 3; Bewick's Wren, 1; Mockingbird, 2; Robin, 32; Bluebird, 3; Starling, 50; Goldfinch, 3; Tree Sparrow, 12; Field Sparrow, 5; Slate-colored Junco, 43; Song Sparrow, 18; Fox Sparrow, 1; Cardinal, 5. Total, 31 species, 284 individuals.

—ROBERT L. BALDOCK.

* * * * * *

Marion, Dec. 25—Near Marion. Cloudy; temp. 51; wind, strong. Red-winged Blackbird, 2; Bluebird, 18; Bob-white, 10; Cardinal, 37; Carolina Chickadee, 11; Cowbird, 4; Crow, 96; Dove, 1; Goldfinch, 26; Flicker, 9; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 9; Marsh Hawk, 1; Blue Jay, 7; Slate-colored Junco, 260; Killdeer, 2; Meadowlark, 18; Prairie Horned Lark, 23; Mockingbird, 11; Robin, 24; Migrant Shrike, 1; Chipping Sparrow, 6; Field Sparrow, 11; Fox Sparrow, 3; Song Sparrow, 4; Swamp Sparrow, 2; Vesper Sparrow, 3; White-crowned Sparrow, 27; Tufted Titmouse, 6; Towhee, 4; Cedar Waxwing, 22; Southern Downy Woodpecker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 3; Bewick's Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 4; Winter Wren, 2; Marsh Wren, 2; Starling, 8. Total, 40 species, 684 individuals.

—DR. T. ATCHISON FRAZER.

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Madisonville, Ky. (W. W. Hancock farm, Loch Mary, Clear Creek, Atkinson Lake, Spring Lake Wild Refuge, Princeton and Hecla Roads, woods, streets, and open country)—Dec. 26, 7:30 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. Cloudy, wind southeast, light to fairly strong, temperature 57 degrees at start, 60 degrees at return. About ten miles on foot. Sparrow Hawk, 1; Flicker, 2; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 7; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 8; Blue Jay, 6; Crow, 7; Carolina Chickadee, 17; Tufted Titmouse, 11; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Bewick's Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 10; Mockingbird, 4; Bluebird, 6; Cedar Waxwing, 12; Starling, 10; English Sparrow, 165; Meadowlark, 2; Cardinal, 32; Purple Finch, 1; Goldfinch, 14; Towhee, 12; Slate-colored Junco, 173; Tree Sparrow, 95; Field Sparrow, 12; White-crowned Sparrow, 2; White-throated Sparrow, 15; Fox Sparrow, 1; Swamp Sparrow, 4; Song Sparrow, 24. Total, 31 species, 659 individuals. Other species seen near the time of the census: Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup Duck, Turkey Vulture, Bob-white (18 on Dec. 24), Robin, Hermit Thrush, Migrant Shrike, and Red-winged Blackbird.

—JAMES Wm. HANCOCK.

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Hopkinsville, Ky., Dec. 24, 1936—Weather fair; temperature 42 degrees at start, 50 degrees at finish; time, 8 A. M. to 4 P. M. About seven miles on foot, equally divided territory of open field and fence row, woodland,

and thickets and creek bank along Little River. Observers together. Turkey Vulture, 4; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Bob-White, 7 (flock); Killdeer, 3; Mourning Dove, 24; Great Horned Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 1; Flicker, 18; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 7; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 33; Phoebe, 2; Prairie Horned Lark, 129 (2 flocks, 85 and 44); Blue Jay, 20; Crow, 273 (about 250 in flock after Great Horned Owl); Carolina Chickadee, 90; Tufted Titmouse, 103; White-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Brown Creeper, 3; Winter Wren, 6; Bewick's Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 24; Mockingbird, 20; Robin, 3; Hermit Thrush, 1; Bluebird, 43; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 6; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 3; Cedar Waxwing, 105; Shirke, 1; Starling, 9; Myrtle Warbler, 33; Meadowlark, 23; Cardinal, 30; Purple Finch, 40; Goldfinch, 103; Towhee, 15; Slate-colored Junco, 295; Chipping Sparrow, 3; Field Sparrow, 147; White-crowned Sparrow, 9; White-Throated Sparrow, 23; Fox Sparrow, 1; Swamp Sparrow, 3; Song Sparrow, 183. Species, 48; individuals, 1860.

—J. M. WALKER, Jr., and SUE R. WALKER.

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Bowling Green, Ky.—Dec. 22.—6:45 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. Sky clear; wind, south, light; ground bare; temp. at start 28, at return 42. Three parties in morning, two in afternoon, covering a territory about twelve miles in diameter, with Bowling Green as a center. Common Canada Goose, 18 (this flock wintering here); Turkey Vulture, 1; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; American Rough-legged Hawk, 1 (studied at close range); Marsh Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 3; Bob-white, 10; Mourning Dove, 10; Great Horned Owl, 1; Northern Barred Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Northern Flicker, 18; Southern Pileated Woodpecker, 7; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 11; Red-headed Woodpecker, 3; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 6; Southern Downy Woodpecker, 22; Prairie Horned Lark, 400; Northern Blue Jay, 24; Eastern Crow, 117 (usually scarce this winter); Carolina Chickadee, 120; Tufted Titmouse, 110; White-breasted Nuthatch, 8; Brown Creeper, 1; Winter Wren, 1; Bewick's Wren, 5; Carolina Wren, 15; Mockingbird, 9; Robin, 26; Hermit Thrush, 4; Bluebird, 26; Migrant Shrike, 2; Starling, 3100; Myrtle Warbler, 14; English Sparrow, 240; Meadowlark, 19; Cardinal, 69; Purple Finch, 55; Goldfinch, 53; Towhee, 31; Savannah Sparrow, 3; Slate-colored Junco, 450; Tree Sparrow, 78; Field Sparrow, 87; White-crowned Sparrow, 42; White-throated Sparrow, 52; Swamp Sparrow, 7; Song Sparrow, 45. Total, 50 species, 5,334 individuals. Other species known to be wintering here: Killdeer, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, and Black Vulture.

—HAYWARD BROWN, BASIL COLE, L. Y. LANCASTER,
CHAS. L. TAYLOR, J. R. WHITMER, GORDON WILSON.

* * * * * *

Glasgow, Ky.—Dec. 23, 8:00 A. M. to 3:15 P. M. Darter, Wininger, Starr, and adjoining farms; along Beaver Creek and Darter's Branch. Partly cloudy, no wind, temp. 30. Turkey Vulture, 6; Black Vulture, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Marsh Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 3; Mourning Dove, 1; Barred Owl, 1; Flicker, 15; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Southern Downy Woodpecker, 5; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 12; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Prairie Horned Lark, 60; Blue Jay, 53; Crow, 247; Carolina Chickadee, 39; Tufted Titmouse, 35; Carolina Wren, 7; Mockingbird, 7; Robin, 96; Bluebird, 36; Cedar Waxwing, 88; Migrant

Shrike, 1; Starling, 216; Myrtle Warbler, 9; Bronzed Grackle, 19; Cowbird, 14; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 7 (I have often found them very late in the fall); Cardinal, 24; Purple Finch, 5; Goldfinch, 51; Red-eyed Towhee, 18; Slate-colored Junco, 228; Tree Sparrow, 89; Savannah Sparrow, 1; Field Sparrow, 4; White-crowned Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 50; Swamp Sparrow, 22. Total, 40 species, 1478 individuals. Other birds recorded for this area within a week of the census: Mallard, Great Blue Heron, Belted Kingfisher, Pileated Woodpecker, Brown Creeper, White-breasted Nuthatch, Hermit Thrush, Meadowlark, White-throated Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Bob-white, and Broad-winged Hawk.

—RUSSELL STARR.

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Louisville, Kentucky (along the Ohio River to Twelve Mile Island and adjacent territory)—Dec. 27, 6:15 A. M. to 4:30 P. M.; hard rain nearly all day, overcast and foggy, wind northwest, brisk; temp. 60 degrees at start, 58 degrees at return. Twelve miles on foot and in automobiles. Observers in two parties.

Double-breasted Cormorant	1	Tufted Titmouse	53
Black Duck	22	White-breasted Nuthatch	12
Lesser Scaup Duck	200	Brown Creeper	1
Cooper's Hawk	1	Winter Wren	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	3	Carolina Wren	4
Duck Hawk	1	Mockingbird	5
Sparrow Hawk	7	Robin	1
Herring Gull	23	Cedar Waxwing	40
Ring-billed Gull	1	Starling	4565
Mourning Dove	6	English Sparrow	105
Screech Owl	1	Red-wing	72
Barred Owl	1	Cowbird	3
Belted Kingfisher	3	Cardinal	73
Flicker	3	Goldfinch	23
Red-bellied Woodpecker	3	Red-eyed Towhee	27
Red-headed Woodpecker	1	Slate-colored Junco	211
Hairy Woodpecker	1	Tree Sparrow	104
Downy Woodpecker	13	Field Sparrow	7
Blue Jay	13	White-throated Sparrow	9
Crow	342	Swamp Sparrow	1
Carolina Chickadee	51	Song Sparrow	43

Total, 42 species; 6057 individpals.

—C. W. BECKHAM BIRD CLUB,

Evelyn Schneider, Mabel Slack, Dr. Cynthia C. Counce, Floyd Carpenter, Dr. Harvey Lovell, Robert Mengel, W. Barnett Owen, Jr., James B. Young, Burt L. Monroe.

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Louisville, Ky. (Cave Hill Cemetery, about two blocks from Cherokee Park)—Dec. 27., 1936; 6:30 A. M. to 9:30 A. M.; warm; rain, temperature, 60 degrees; about 1 mile on foot—Mallard, 50; Flicker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Blue Jay, 1; Crow, 1; Carolina Chickadee, 2; Tufted Titmouse, 2; Mockingbird, 2; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Cedar Waxwing, 12; Starling, 20; Cardinal, 6; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 1; Slate-colored Junco, 7. Total, 14 species; 108 individuals.

—EMILIE YUNKER.

Cynthiana, Ky. (To Allen Farm and out Salem Pike)—Jan. 6, 12:30 P. M. to 3:45 P. M.; cloudy; wind south, slight. Started to rain after I had been out a little over an hour and continued through remainder of afternoon. Temperature 48 degrees at start, 46 at return. Twelve miles in car and about two miles on foot. Cardinal, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Carolina Chickadee, 10; Tufted Titmouse, 5; Starling, 10; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Carolina Wren, 3; Mockingbird, 1; English Sparrow, 42; Crow, 13; Song Sparrow, 1; Gold Finch, 23; Blue Jay, 2; Bluebird, 2; Killdeer, 1. Total, 15 species, 121 individuals.

—BIRD WELLS RICE.

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1936 CHRISTMAS CENSUS

Summary for the State of Kentucky

Double-crested Cormorant, 1; Great Blue Heron, 2; Mallard, 50; Black Duck, 22; Canvasback, 3; Lesser Scaup Duck, 200; Canada Goose, 18; Turkey Vulture, 16; Black Vulture, 2; Cooper's Hawk, 5; Marsh Hawk, 5; Red-tailed Hawk, 12; Red-shouldered Hawk, 3; Broad-winged Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 27; Duck Hawk, 1; American Rough-legged Hawk, 1; Bob-white, 65; Killdeer, 9; Herring Gull, 35; Ring-billed Gull, 1; Mourning Dove, 62; Barred Owl, 3; Great Horned Owl, 2; Screech Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 6; Hairy Woodpecker, 18; Downy Woodpecker, 104; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 6; Pileated Woodpecker, 9; Red-headed Woodpecker, 11; Flicker, 82; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 54; Phoebe, 2; Prairie Horned Lark, 633; Blue Jay, 155; Crow, 1123; Carolina Chickadee, 363; Tufted Titmouse, 363; White-breasted Nuthatch, 30; Brown Creeper, 6; Carolina Wren, 77; Bewick's Wren, 11; Winter Wren, 11; Marsh Wren, 2; Mockingbird, 64; Hermit Thrush, 7; Robin, 97; Bluebird, 141; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 7; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 4; Cedar Waxwing, 279; Migrant Shrike, 6; Starling, 7996; English Sparrow, 597; Myrtle Warbler, 56; Cowbird, 36; Red-wing, 82; Meadowlark, 75; Bronzed Grackle, 19; Purple Finch, 115; Goldfinch, 305; Cardinal, 318; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 7; Red-eyed Towhee, 120; Vesper Sparrow, 3; Slate-colored Junco, 1832; Savannah Sparrow, 4; White-crowned Sparrow, 86; White-throated Sparrow, 112; Tree Sparrow, 498; Chipping Sparrow, 9; Field Sparrow, 273; Swamp Sparrow, 40; Fox Sparrow, 7; Song Sparrow, 386. Total species, 76; individuals, approximately 17,204.

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CENSUS FROM OUR MICHIGAN MEMBER

McMillan, Luce County, Michigan—Dec. 28, 9:13 A. M. to 11:33 A. M. Weather, overcast, wind north, light. Temperature 21 degrees to 23 degrees, down to twelve degrees after sundown. Observer alone on skis. Ground covered with an average of about 5 to 6 inches of snow, crusted but not hard enough to walk on. Covered woods, cut-over land, fields, and around McCormick Lake, a distance of three miles. Necessary to stop often as it was noisy walking on crusted snow. Lake frozen over since November 18. 7x Mirakel glass used. Good crop of seeds on ironwood and in cones of firs, hemlocks, and birches. Eastern Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Northern Downy Woodpecker, 1; Northern Blue Jay, 3; Black-capped Chickadee, 22 (17 were in one flock; many feeding on seeds of ironwood); White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; English Sparrow, 25; Canadian Pine Grosbeak, 1; Common Redpoll, 1 (heard); Northern Pine Siskin, 1 (heard); Eastern Snow Bunting, 27. Total, 10 species, 84 individuals. Other species observed this month but not today are: Eastern Goshawk, 1, Dec. 22; Great Horned Owl, 1 (heard hooting) Dec. 5; Northern Pileated Woodpecker, 1, Dec. 24; Northern Shirke, 1, Dec. 8; European Starling, 2, Dec. 27; Eastern Evening Grosbeak, 2, Dec. 24; Eastern Purple Finch, 1, Dec. 25; White-winged Crossbill, 3, Dec. 24; Eastern Goldfinch, 2, Dec. 5. In these only the last dates are given.

—OSCAR McKINLEY BRYENS.

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THROUGH THE FIELD GLASS

ALBINO JUNCO

An early morning trip through Cherokee Park on Thanksgiving Day (November 26, 1936) yielded an unusual bird on this dull gray morning which seemed to promise nothing extraordinary. Homeward bound, we had stopped to watch the antics of a flock of lively birds in a tall tree top—mostly Chicadees, Titmice, and Nuthatches. Suddenly, as I ceased looking up for a moment in order to rest my neck, a peculiar flash of white passed before me. It was too low to have been the under parts of a bird and yet too bird-like to have been anything else. I crossed the road to see better the spot where the white streak had ended and discovered to my amazement a purely white bird the size and shape of a Junco feeding at the base of the hill about seventy-five feet away. Upon studying it closely we found that the head and neck were slightly darker than the rest of the bird; they were a pallid neutral gray. The back, wings, tail, and under parts were entirely white. The pink color of the bill could easily be seen. Along with this stranger were feeding a flock of Slate-colored Juncos, and as these gradually moved farther up the hill the white member of the party moved with them, remaining very conspicuous among the dead leaves until it passed out of sight over the crest of the hill.

After searching our books carefully for any other species to which this bird might possibly belong, we felt assured in our first supposition that an Albino Junco was visiting our neighborhood. The bird was seen again near the same location on Sunday, December 27.

January 4, 1937. EVELYN J. SCHNEIDER, Louisville, Ky.

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THE PROTEAN SPARROW

Late one afternoon I noticed two or three sparrow-like birds acting for all the world like Flycatchers. They were in the top of a tree of moderate height standing in a strip of woods on the edge of town. Every few moments they would fly out into the air, evidently after insects, and return to their perch in orthodox Flycatcher fashion. Their shape and color however were not those of the so-called Flycatchers; indeed continued scrutiny more and more revealed their likeness to the common sparrow; and to make the story much shorter than the time I was watching them, I found that my Flycatcher were none other than the birds of our eaves and doorways, the final syllable of whose scientific name, **passer domesticus,** we are sometimes tempted to emphasize. Since then I have seen them at different times and in other situations faithfully and vigorously aping the characteristic movements of the Pewee and its congeners.

Again, walking in a city street where trees were placed some twenty feet apart in the grass plat, I observed a small bird resting on the side of the hole of a tree, its body in a somewhat horizontal position. As I approached, it flew to the next tree, taking about the same position on its trunk, then to the next, and so on for six or eight consecutive trees. I wondered if it could be some unfamiliar member of the family of climbing birds, but found that it was certainly my familiar friend in an attitude not infrequently assumed.

At times, too, when one is on the look-out for birds of rarer feather, he may note a movement in the foliage very similar to that caused by a warbler or vireo, only to find presently that he is watching the antics of the same enterprising and omnipresent member of the avian proletariat.

How often too it has happened that, being in company with those who kindly ascribe to me some ability to identify our feathered friends, I have been asked, "What bird is that?" and have had the pleasure of answering with solemnity, "That is an English Sparrow." He will fool you too "if you don't watch out." There are variations and anomalies not only in behavior but in appearance.

There is of course the obvious difference in color between the sexes, and living as they do chiefly and familiarly among the haunts of man they are subject to being at times much discolored with soot and grime. But aside from those differences, substantial variations in color may be noted. I observed recently two females together. One was noticeably darker than the other. And one may sometimes see a female whose breast is very light, approaching to whiteness. Whether their gentlemen prefer the more blond type I do not know.

It must be remembered too that the apparent color (if color is ever other than apparent) varies markedly with the light in which the bird is seen. I have seen them, when in flight and catching the bright sunlight, gleam with a a brightness that suggested a bird of decidedly tawny plumage. Even distinct differences in size are not wanting. They may be real, owing chiefly to age and sex, or apparent, caused by environment or atmospheric conditions.

In short, our humble, ubiquitous and most versatile friend will repay a close and sympathetic acquaintance. The adult male when clean and freshly groomed is undeniably handsome, and his modestly attired wife is a lady of grace and beauty. It is interesting too to note that, like other familiar bipeds, some are simply better looking than others. In this case as in others, if one will "look to like," he well may find that "looking liking moves."

—W. FOSTER HAYES,
Harvey, Illinois.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Organized April, 1923

President..........Mr. Brasher C. Bacon, Madisonville, Ky.
Vice-President..........Dr. Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green, Ky.
Secretary-Treasurer—Miss Evelyn Schneider, 2207 Alta Ave., Louisville, Ky.

Meets annually in Louisville during the week of the Kentucky Education Association; in the fall at some town or park in the state.

Dues: Active, $1.00; Group (of ten or more children under sixteen years of age), 25c a person.

Address correspondence about the WARBLER to Burt L. Monroe, 207 No. Birchwood Ave., Louisville, Ky. Send dues to the Secretary-Treasurer.

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The Kentucky Warbler

Volume XIII SPRING, 1937 No. 2

SPRING MEETING

The fifteenth annual spring meeting of the K. O. S., held on April 15-16, 1937, at the Seelbach Hotel, Louisville, Ky., began auspiciously with a large attendance. Our president, Mr. Bacon, after his welcome, introduced Robert M. Mengel, a young Louisville bird student, who told of his recent trip to Florida and of the many species of birds which he saw there. He illustrated his talk with free-hand drawings in color upon a blackboard. The audience was happy indeed to know that so able and intelligent a young man, who has already advanced far in bird study, is counted among our active members.

Mr. Albert F. Ganier, of Nashville, editor of THE MIGRANT, and staunch friend of the K. O. S., spoke of variation among birds, telling of different kinds of legs, wings, bills, feet and talons among different species, giving the purposes of these variations and explaining how structure is adapted to use. He spoke of different types of sound, of various kinds of nests, of textures and shapes of eggs, showing in each case the importance of adaptibility. In conclusion Mr. Ganier urged a continuance of bird study, not only for the immediate pleasure to be gained but because in later years the association with the birds, the fields and woods brings about a sense of rejuvenation, calling back memories of earlier days and giving something extremely worthwhile to live for and to enjoy.

Mr. Raymond J. Fleetwood, junior bioligist of the Soil Conservation Service at Paducah, Ky., spoke of the work of that service in improving the environment for wild life in Kentucky. Among the reasons for reducing wild life population he gave the clearance of shrubbery, briars, and trees from farm land, and the grazing of cattle in the woodlands. Wild life conservation, which includes vegetation and plant life as well as animal and bird life, he stated, is a complex subject which demands much study. A knowledge of the relation of one form of life to another, of the reasons for a decrease of one form of life, is necessary. He told of the work of molding by proper education the attitude of the people to-

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ward the creatures of the forests and streams so that there may again be an abundance of birds and other animal life.

Mr. Ganier then concluded the afternoon's program by showing lantern slides of many species of birds, their nests and habitats, including the Great Horned Owl, Golden Eagle, King Rail, Cliff Swallows, Mississipi Kite, Least Tern, American Egret, Anhinga, Cormorant, and closed with a beautiful colored picture of hundreds of ducks rising in the early morning from a wooded lake on a bird refuge in Arkansas.

After the meeting Miss Emilie Yunker showed the bird houses and feeding stations made by pupils of the Louisville public schools and distributed bird sticks, carved and beautifully colored by pupils in the schools.

On Friday morning sixteen early risers assembled at seven o'clock for a field trip led by Mrs. Dorothy M. Hobson to the ponds and woods in Indian Hills, out the River Road to the Scout Camp and Sleepy Hollow. A total of seventy species was seen, the most unusual for those who usually cover the territory being an Osprey, soaring majestically with gracefully curved wings, and a flock of Tree Swallows. An American Bittern and two Sora Rails were discovered among the cat-tails, several species of ducks were found on the river, a few warblers had arrived for the late spring, and many of our winter residents were still at hand. The group would have enjoyed spending the entire day together in the field, but the luncheon necessitated hastening back toward town.

Forty members attended the luncheon at the hotel at twelve thirty. Dr. T. Atchison Frazer, with the subject, "Random Shots," told of many interesting observations he had made during his rtcent studies: a Cowbird shot in Kentucky in midwinter which had been banded in Texas in July; the interest of a Cowbird in the incubation of her egg which she had laid in a Phoebe's ntst; the discovery of a false bottom in a Yellow Warbler's nest in which had been laid a Cowbird's egg; observations on the feeding of young Carolina Wrens; the possession by Starlings of Blue bird cavities and Woodpecker holes; and many other interesting and entertaining facts.

Mr. S. E. Perkins III announced the meeting of the Wilson Orinithological Club in Indianapolis in December, inviting as many as possible from Kentucky to attend. Mr. Bacon paid tribute to Miss Emile Yunker for her many years of faithful service to the K. O. S. and thanked her for the exquisite flowers which decorated the tables.

The afternoon session opened with Mr. Perkins, treasurer of the Wilson Ornithological Club, as the first speaker. He described the unusual Great Blue Heronry in Starke County, Indiana, and illustrated his talk with colored lantern slides depicting the flowers, shrubs, trees, animals and birds of the forest in great profusion. The Great Blue Heron nests and the many birds in the tamarack trees were of special interest. The lantern slides were followed with moving pictures of these majestic birds is their nesting territory.

Dr. Gordon Wilson told of his bird experiences since 1931 over many parts of the country. He spoke of the new birds he added to his list each year and where they had been found and told of the pleasure of re-encountering the same birds in far different localities at different times of the year. He spoke of the absorbing interest in learning each year new facts about old friends, reminding us that all these experiences even though seemingly trivial in themselves, when accumulated ultimately make up a life experience.

Dr. Rodney D. Book, of Corning, Ohio, spoke of many points of behavior in the Titmouse, which he has studied closely for twenty five years. Their behavior when feeding, mating, behavior of the young, his identification of individuals by singular characteristics, and several problems regarding these friendly birds to which he has found no solution, formed a delightfully interesting talk.

Dr. Wilson thanked the visiting speakers,—Mr. Ganier, Mr. Perkins, Dr. Book, Mr. Fleetwood—for their kindness in having come to Louisville to take part in the program and expressed to the neighboring organizations our appreciation of their interest. With sincerest gratitude in the heart of each of us to every speaker during the two days' session for the illuminating facts that were given, their entertaining presentation, the encouragement and added stimulus to continued study and observation, the fifteenth annual spring meeting was brought to a close.

—EVELYN J. SCHNEIDER,
Louisville, Ky.

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BIRDS OF KENTUCKY

By

Brasher Collins Bacon and Burt Beavelle Monroe

5. WHITE PELICAN, Pelecanus erythrorhynchos (125)

The very few authentic records which we have been able to gather on this species indicate that it is a very rare transient in Kentucky.

RECORDS:

"Found on the Ohio River at Louisville and abundant at Henderson" (Audubon). Fulton County: "It is not rare during the migration season, and is occasionally noted during the winter. A few are said to winter regularly at a small lake in Missouri just across the river from Hickman. On May 10, 1887, one was captured on the Mississippi River near Hickman and brought to me for identification. I know of no other instance of its occurrence in the summer, nor any evidence of its breeding in this locality. This bird had probably been crippled during its migration" (Pindar). Reelfoot Lake: "A rare transient species; the line of migration from its breeding grounds in the northwest to its winter home on the Gulf Coast lies considerably west of the Mississippi Valley. It sometimes appears as early as late August on the Mississippi. One taken in the fall of 1918 on the lake was mounted by Mr. Seth Curlin, of Hickman, and shown to the author at the Walnut Log Lodge. On October 3, 1926, two, which had been on the lake for approximately a month, were shot by a gunner. One of these were mounted and is now in the state Museum at Nashville. Steve Crossley who had been a hunter here for years, stated in 1919 that he had seen one or two on the lake nearly every season. Further south along the river, they have in times past been recorded as occurring in large flocks. A recent record of a flock of sixty-four, seen on September 18, 1934, near Memphis, has been made by Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Coffee" (Ganier).

6. DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT, Phalocrocorax auritus (120).

A fairly regular migrant in Kentucky and as this species has been found nesting in "Cranetown" at Reelfoot Lake, and in Henderson County and near Barlow, it is quite probable that they may nest frequently in the swamps and along the rivers of western Kentucky.

RECORDS:

Fulton County: "A common migrant, a fairly common summer habitant, and rare in winter" (Pindar). "Regular migrant may breed in the state" (Funkhouser). Lexington: "October 9, 1919" (A. Roark); Ballard County (W. A. Anderson); Nelson County: "A rare migrant; Bardstown, one record; an immature bird shot from a flock of seven on September 30, 1916, by a local hunter. I am unable to state to which geographical race this specimen is referable" (Blincoe); Reelfoot Lake: "A common permanent resident but much more abundant in early spring and fall. One of the most characteristic birds of the lake and since it keeps to the open water, is large and conspicuous, the 'Nigger Goose' always makes an impression on visitors. During April and May thousands of these birds congregate on the lake, but most of them pass on to the northwest and Canada, and only about two hundred pairs remain to breed. Up to a few years ago these were divided into two colonies, one at the head of the lake just south of the Kentucky line and the other at the head of Big Ronaldson Slough four miles northwest of Samburg. Their nesting is now confined to the latter colony where they share a 'Cranetown' with Herons, Egrets and Water Turkeys. The first mentioned colony was visited on April 26, 1919, at which time there were approximately seventy-five nests of the Cormorant with one hundred twenty-five nests of Ward's Heron, all averaging from eighty to more than a hundred feet up in aged cypress trees. The 'Cranetown' at the southwest side of the lake was last visited on May 25, 1931, at which time there were about fifty nests of the Coromorants with five times as many of the Wards's Heron. A visit here eleven years later, May 29, 1932, showed a greatly augumented population, there being estimated to be two hundred Coromorant nests in the colony" (Ganier). Bowling Green: "I have only two records, three on May 2, 1927, and one on May 8, 1935, on the McElroy Lake" (Gordon Wilson). Jefferson County: "I have seen these birds on the Ohio River especially near the vicinity of Goose Island, in November in rather large numbers.

During the fall of 1935, I saw as many as two hundred at one time resting on the water and in the trees" (Monroe). "Also recorded near Goose Island on April 22, 23, 1933; Indian Hills Pond, September 22, 1933, four birds. Ohio River at the west end of Louisville, November 13, 1933, ten birds; November 15, 1933, seven birds" (Carpenter & Monroe). Henderson County: "On June 16, 1936, in company with Mr. Daniel H. Jazen, Regional Director, Game Management Division, U. S. Biological Survey, we visited a Heron Rookery in Henderson County, located 12 miles west of Henderson, and two miles east of the head of Diamond Island, on the Ohio River. Here we found three nests each of Double-crested Cormorant and American Egrets and two hundred nests of Ward's (Great Blue) Heron, nearly all of the nests had young birds. The nests were placed in pecan, maple, oak and gum trees about sixty feet from the ground. I also visited a rookery near Barlow, on the Mounds City, Ill., road located east at Ax lake, between the lake and the bluffs. In this colony were three nests of the Double-crested Cormorant and two of the American Egrets and about three hundred nests of Ward's (Great Blue) Heron, the majority of which were placed in cupelo gum trees" (R. C. Soaper, U. S. Game Management Agent). Hopkins County: "A very rare transient. Pond River, one killed by hunters October 7, 1907, one observed October 1, 1922, one August 27, 1925, two September 21, 1928; Atkinson Lake, one bird observed on October 29, 1929; Spring Lake Refuge, one bird observed September 28, 1930, one bird stayed on the lake from October 9 to 13, 1931, one bird observed on October 5, 1932" (Bacon).

7. WATER TURKEY, Anhinga anhinga (118).

Due to its retiring nature and secretive habits, this species is probably overlooked in localities in the state where it doubtless occurs. It is very doubtful if they nest in Kentucky although they have been found nesting near Big Ronaldson Slough a few miles south of the Kentucky State line.

RECORDS:

Fulton County: "Abundant in the spring and fall, common in the summer, and rare through the winter" (Pindar). "It is a rare visitant" (Funkhouser). "I found it near Wickliffe, Ballard County, August 28, 1927; Calloway County, probably a rare summer resident" (Gordon Wilson). Reelfoot Lake: "During a number of trips to Reelfoot Lake in the past, this species has not been seen in summer; also it was thought the lake was beyond the northern limits of its range. However on May 29, 1932, at least fifty pair were found nesting in the 'Cranetown' at the north end of Big Ronaldson Slough. The nests very much resemble those of the Cormorants, being substantially built up of cypress twigs and snugly lined with shreds of cypress bark. In most of them four or five eggs were noted, no young having hatched as yet" (Ganier). Hopkins County: "A very rare transient. I have never observed them on the lakes; they seem to prefer the deep recesses of the big woods along the creeks and rivers. Clear Creek, one bird seen July 7, 1908; Pond River, near Green River, three birds on July 18, 1912; Pond Creek, three birds on August 22, 1917; Clear Creek, one bird November 11, 1924; Clear Creek, one bird September 2, 1925; Pond River, two birds October 14, 1928; one bird September 2, 1932 (Bacon).

OBSERVATIONS IN FLORIDA

It was my good fortune this February to spend two weeks in Florida. The place visited was Nokomis, a small town south of Sarasota on the West Coast. The region is ideal, both ornithologically and otherwise. Ninety-six species were recorded and I must confess that little hard work was done. Single lists often numbered forty-eight species and four thousand or more individuals. Interesting birds seen were the Florida Sandhill Crane, Audubon's Caracara, Royal Tern, Brown Pelican, Cabot's Tern, Piping Plover, Snowy Egret, Ward's Heron, Louisiana Heron, and many others. Bald Eagle were common, as many as eight being seen in a day. Two nests of the Eagle were found. On one was a Great Horned Owl and on the other the Eagles. The latter nest contained two three quarter grown fledgelings of which I got good photographs.

Speaking of photography, it nearly ruined me in several ways! Financially, and in disposition. After stalking a Heron for hours through slush and mud and rattlesnake-infested palmetto it is extremely irksome to have him fly away just as the exposure is about to be made, which always happened. Other birds photographed were Florida Cormorants, Logger Head Shrikes, Bald Eagles, Common Loons, Gulls, and Vultures.

One experience which I remember very well was a trip made to the swamps of the Myakha River which runs about fifteen miles back from the Coast. The jungles and hammocks following this stream are extremely beautiful in their trophical vegetation, moss, and bird- life. Snakes, too, were very abundant there. Interesting features were the great numbers of wintering Robins, the many Shrikes, and Florida Barred Owls. The Florida Pileated Woodpecker is also found there, but I was unable to find it.

Many othtr birds, sights, and experiences I lack the room to record. However, it is only beginning to do justice to the State of Florida to say that it is an Ornithologist's Paradise.

—ROBERT M. MENGEL,
Louisville, Ky.

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BANDED REDPOLL IS FOUND: OSCAR BRYENS GIVEN A THRILL

Oscar McKinley Bryens, one of Michigan's most active and accurate bird banders, and a member of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, has just received a thrill such as comes only once or twice in the life of a bird bander. It all came in a notice from F. C. Lincoln, of the United States Bureau of Biological Survey which informed Bryens that "Redpoll No. 1-48334 had been found by Miss Louise Damagalla in Pine County, Minn., on April 8, 1936." Added to this was the note: "As far as I can find, this is the first return and recovery of the Redpoll."

Bryens, who lives at MacMillan, near Newberry, had put a little numbered band on the leg of that Redpoll on April 18, 1934. He never saw the bird again. It might have perished in its arctic nesting grounds, for all he knew. And then, just a few days ago came this notice from Washington. Bryens looked through his careful file-index of banded birds. And there he found the record—a bird banded two years before! The first time that a banded Redpoll had ever been recaptured away from the original banding station!

During the same season that Bryens banded the Redpoll, he had banded another bird in the same flock, which came back to the Bryens station two years later.

"It is of interest to see how far apart they wintered, two years after being taken in the same locality," he comments. By banding birds as a hobby, Bryens is helping to gather information about the movements of our song birds, and other data which add to the sum of human knowledge. Bryens first began banding in 1924, but not until 1930 did he catch his first Redpoll. Since then he has placed bands on 249 of these birds which come into Michigan during the winter. The little Redpoll is a cheery, fluffy, pretty little bird which summers in Arctic America, but leaves with the first advent of autumn. It is streaked below and red capped. The males have a rosy or pinkish breasts.

Bryens reports the first one to arrive on October 15 and the last one to leave on May 10. They feed chiefly on weed seeds that project above the snow and also seeds of birch and cone-bearing trees. Some years these birds may come as far south as Detroit. This year, none have been reported, perhaps due to the mildness of the winter.

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LOUISVILLE MEMBER HONORED

At the fifteenth annual meeting of the Inland Bird Banding Association held at the Chicago Academy of Sciences, Chicago, Illinois, November 28, 1936, Mrs. Dorothy M. Hobson, 1155 Dove Road, Louisville, Kentucky, was elected Bird Banding Councilor for Kentucky.

Each of the twenty-three States and Provinces in the Inland Bird Banding Association is represented with a Councilor excepting Nebraska.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Mrs. Hobson is a member of both the K. O. S. and the C. W. Beckham Bird Club of Louisville. She has done excellent work in her bird banding and her articles will appear in the "Kentucky Warbler" from time to time.]

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JOHN JAMES AUDUBON IN HENDERSON, KY.

By Susan Starling Towles

What William Penn is to Philadelphia, John James Audubon is to Henderson, Kentucky, the old Transylvanian town, rich in traditions of its pioneers, its heroes of many wars, and its old planter ideas that valued a town, as did the Greeks, according to the quality of its people, rather than their number.

Of all of its honored ones the "American Woodsman" is the best remembered. His name is all about the town, being given to a park, a church, a school, a street, a tourist's camping ground. The name may be seen on milk and ice wagons, and many humble enterprises bear it. Audubon coffee and cigars are offered for sale. An important enlargement east of the town, and near to his old refuge at Dr. Adam Rankin's farm, "Meadow Brook," is called "Audubon."

At Henderson is the mother Audubon Society of the State. The schools keep his birthday; annually the children write papers about him and take pride in the onetime citizenship that is so valuable an artistic and inspirational asset of their community. Here and there through the county, families hold as a precious posession a set of his BIRDS AND QUADREPEDS, a print from his folio edition, or a drawing of manuscript—perhaps a few nails from the ruins of his old mill. Many are the stories and traditions of his life here, and when the great beech on which he had inscribed in delicate letters, "J. J. Audubon, 1814," had to be cut down, it wasa small tragedy.

And so Henderson is happy in having a world-honored hero. For him she hopes to make a shrine that it may be a sort of Mecca to all bird lovers and the safe place for Audubonians.

(To that shrine, the members of the Kentucky Ornithological Society will travel in October, 1937, for its Annual Fall Meeting. The announcement that this meeting would be held in Henderson was greeted with great enthusiasm. No other place in the State of Kentucky could be more appropriate for the gathering and we are taking this opportunity of inviting all members and all friends of the Society to gather with us in this Mecca in the Fall. Make your plans now.)

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Organized April, 1923

President..........Mr. Brasher C. Bacon, Madisonville, Ky.
Vice-President..........Dr. Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green, Ky.
Secretary-Treasurer—Miss Evelyn Schneider, 2207 Alta Ave., Louisville, Ky.

Meets annually in Louisville during the week of the Kentucky Education Association; in the fall at some town or park in the state.

Dues: Active, $1.00; Group (of ten or more children under sixteen years of age), 25c a person.

Address correspondence about the WARBLER to Burt L. Monroe, 207 No. Birchwood Ave., Louisville, Ky. Send dues to the Secretary-Treasurer.

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NATIONAL MUSEUM

The Kentucky Warbler

Volume XIII. SUMMER, 1937 No. 3

Summer—that period of retirement for all birddom between early July and mid-August—may be aptly called the "Resting Time of the Birds." That is, for most all. Nesting is over, you say, when you start out on your tramps in late summer; but do not be too sure. There is a gorgeous mite—golden yellow with black wings—who might just be starting to nest. It is the Goldfinch who adds the incentive which keeps the ornithologist afield.

Hay and grain fields have turned from green to yellow or tawny. Many are already harvested. The wild, uncultivated pastures are aglow with golden-rod, sprinkled with masses of the beautifully contrasted purple of the "iron" weeds. Bird songs are no longer heard to any great extent. Instead, the air is full of the monotony of "insect music." But wait. There is the buzzing sound of the Grasshopper Sparrow and the sharp note of the Dickcissel. There is the whistling of the wings of the Mourning Doves as they rocket into the grain fields. Sure, there are still birds to be found.

Then—it is September. August—the month of retirement for the birds—has passed. It is September—the month of restlessness for the birds. You will see them begin to flock among the weeds and shrubs along the roadsides and streams. For many weeks, they have been gathering on the telegraph wires and in the tree tops. You will see the swallows, martins, blackbirds, robins, warblers and shorebirds, as they move into their long southern flights. "There are days in late September," writes Mr. Dallas Lore Sharp, "when the very air seems to be half of birds, especially toward nightfall, if the sun sets full and clear; birds going over; birds diving and darting about you; birds along the rails and ridge-poles; birds in the grass under your feet; birds everywhere. You should be out among them where you can see them."

Assuredly, you should be out among them—always. Summer—the "Resting Time of the Birds." But not the resting time of the bird student.

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THE McELROY FARM—SEASON OF 1937

By

GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green, Ky.

The season of 1937 has brought the largest lake and the largest number of species of birds to the McElroy Farm in my entire acquaintance with it. The very heavy rains of January and February caused the underground streams to overflow and cover nearly a thousand acres of farm

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land. Numerous other similar places blocked the highways leading to the farm, so that I was unable to visit it until January 30. Since then I have hardly missed a week on my trips, and on some weeks I have had two or three. The fairly dry spring and early summer have caused the lake to disappear more rapidly than it did in 1935, my greatest previous year. The numbers of waterfowl that have been recorded this year exceed in species and individuals all previous records. Fifty-four water and wading birds and three unusual **raptores** constitute my finds at the time of writing this paper, eleven ahead of the whole 1935 season.

I have had the good fortune to share the lake with many of my friends among the ornithologists of Kentucky and Tennessee. Professor L. Y. Lancaster and Professor C. L. Taylor, two of my colleagues, have made several trips with me. Misses Mabel Slack, Evelyn Schneider, Dorothy Peil, Helen Peil, and Frances Anderson and Mrs. Dorothy Madden Hobson spent March 27 and 28 in observation there. Floyd S. Carpenter visited it with me on April 10 and 11. On April 24 Burt Monroe joined Professor Lancaster and me for a tour of the area; the next day Mr. Monroe and I were joined by Dr. George R. Mayfield and Mr. Albert F. Ganier, of Nashville.

Here are the waterfowl in the order in which they were first seen:—

COMMON MALLARD (Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos)
January 30-April 17. Common.

KILLDEER (Oxyechus vociferus vociferus)
Always seen. Common.

AMERICAN PINTALL (Dafila acuta tzitzihoa)
January 30-May 18. Abundant. A crippled female through the summer.

BLACK DUCK (Anas rubripes subsp.?)
February 7-April 24. Common. A pair or three individuals through the summer.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL (Querquedula discors)
February 7-May 1. Abundant. A half dozen or so through the summer.

COMMON CANADA GOOSE (Branta canadensis canadensis)
February 7-April 11. As many as 60 at a time.

AMERICAN COOT (Fulica americana americana)
February 20-May 18. Abundant. A scattering few through the summer.

LESSER SCAUP DUCK (Nyroca affinis)
February 2-May 18. Abundant.

HOODED MERGANSER (Lophodytes cucullatus)
March 2. Four birds.

REDHEAD (Nyroca americana)
March 2-27. Fairly common.

LESSER YELLOWLEGS (Totanus flavipes)
March 6-May 26. Common.

OLD-SQUAW (Clangula hyemalis)
March 6-April 3. As many as four seen on four trips.

SHOVELLER (Spatula clypeata)
March 6-May 18. Common to abundant.

HERRING GULL (Larus argentatus smithsonianus)
March 6. One. And again on March 15.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER (Pisobia melanotos)
March 15-April 25. Common to abundant.

WILSON'S SNIPE (Capella delicata)
March 15-May 7. Common.

AMERICAN GOLDEN-EYE (Glaucionetta clangula americana)
March 15-April 7. As many as 20 at a time.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL (Nettion carolinense)
March 15-April 24. Common.

AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER (Pluvialis dominica dominica)
March 15. One.

RING-BILLED GULL (Larus delawarensis)
March 15-30. Eight being the largest number.

GREATER YELLOW-LEGS (Totanus melanoleucus)
March 23-May 1. Common.

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER (Melanitta deglandi)
March 23. One bird.

CANVAS-BACK (Nyroca valisineria)
March 27-April 17. Twenty as the highest number.

BLUE GOOSE (Chen caerulescens)
March 27-May 1. Fifteen on April 17.

RING-NECKED DUCK (Nyroca collaris)
March 27-May 9. Fairly common. I found a female of this species, apparantly unable to fly, on June 22. Also seen June 26 and 30.

COMMON LOON (Gavia immer immer)
March 29-April 25. Eighteen on the first date.

HOLBOELL'S GREBE (Colymbus grisgena holboelli)
March 30. One bird.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER (Squatarola squatarola)
March 30. Two birds. May 18. One bird.

WESTERN WILLET (Catoptrophorus semipalmatus inornatus)
March 30. One bird.

PIED-BILLED GREBE (Podilymbus podiceps podiceps)
March 30-April 25. Rare.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON (Nycticorax nycticorax)
March 30—through the season, with immature ones in May and June. Four as the largest number.

WOOD DUCK (Aix sponsa)
April 3. Two birds.

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER (Limnodromus griseus scolopaceus)
April 7-May 1. Seven as highest number.

BALDPATE (Mareca americana)
April 10. One bird. April 11, ten birds.

BUFFLE-HEAD (Charitonetta albeola)
April 10-17. Two being highest number.

EASTERN SOLITARY SANDPIPER (Tringa solitaria solitaria)
April 10-May 18 and again after June 17. Fairly common.

UPLAND PLOVER (Bartramia longicauda)
One on April 10 and 11.

GREAT BLUE HERON (Ardea herodias herodias)
April 11—through season. Rare.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER (Actitis macularia)
April 17—through season. Rare.

LEAST SANDPIPER (Pisobia minutilla)
April 17-May 22 and again June 13. Common.
HORNED GREBE (Colymbus auritus)
April 17. Two birds.
EASTERN GREEN HERON (Butorides virescens virescens)
April 24—through the season. Fairly common.
SEMIPALMATED PLOVER (Charadrius semipalmatus)
April 25-May 25. As many as 25 at a time.
COMMON TERN (Sterna hirundo hirundo)
May 7. Three birds.
RED-BREASTED MERGANSER (Mergus serrator)
May 7. Four birds.
SORA (Porzana carolina)
May 9. One bird.
LITTLE BLUE HERON (Florida caerulea caerulea)
May 18. Two birds.
BLACK TERN (Chlidonias nigra surinamensis)
May 18-June 13. Two on the first date. One on the last.
SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER (Ereunetes pusillus)
May 22-26. Fifty as the highest number.
PIPING PLOVER (Charadrius melodus)
May 26. Fifteen birds.
AMERICAN EGRET (Casmerodius albus egretta)
June 13. One bird.
BAIRD'S SANDPIPER (Pisobia bairdi)
June 13. One bird.
KING RAIL (Rallus elegans elegans)
June 13. One bird.
YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON (Nyctanassa violacea violacea)
June 26. Three birds.

The following RAPTORES surprised and pleased me:

SOUTHERN BALD EAGLE (Haliaeetus leucocephalus leucocephalus)
One on April 10, while Carpenter was with me.
OSPREY (Pandion haliaetus carolinensis)
One on April 24 and 25, while Monroe was with me.
DUCK HAWK (Falco peregrinus anatum)
One on April 25, while Ganier, Mayfield and Monroe were with me. I saw a Duck Hawk again on June 11.

(June 30, 1937)

* * * * * *

THE FINEST SHOW ON EARTH

By

BIRD W. RICE, Cynthiana, Ky.

I have a box seat for the finest show on earth. No, it isn't the theatre, a ball game or even a horse race. It's—yes, you have guessed it—the show presented by the birds.

The west window in my bedroom overlooks the garden and here, comfortably seated, with screen and window raised, I can observe the birds without being seen by them, a decided advantage.

Not only during migration does this window attract me but all through the year there is something interesting to see. In winter, I can watch the birds that visit my feeding station and during the nesting season, I discover many secrets.

This morning (May 2nd), I was awakened, as usual at this time of the year, by a chorus of bird song. Cardinals, Brown Thrashers, Catbirds, Song Sparrows, Tufted Titmice and House Wrens all seemed to be trying to out-do each other. Suddenly during a lull, I heard a song new to me. It sounded a little like a Wood Thrush, yet it most certainly was not. I never did discover the musician's name, but it served to pique my curiosity and get me out of bed and dressed quickly. Seated at my window with binoculars and note book on the sill, I set down the birds as I saw them. The list follows:

Catbird
Eastern Cardinal
Brown Thrasher
Cape May Warbler
Olive-backed Thrush
Blue Jay
Bronzed Grackle
House Wren
Yellow Warbler
Starling
Song Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Robin
Tufted Titmouse
White-eyed Vireo
Wood Thrush
Black-throated Green Warbler
Mockingbird
Blackburnian Warbler
Nashville Warbler
Orchard Oriole
Maryland Yellow-throat
Crested Flycatcher
Chimney Swift

Not a bad list for one yard in one day!

Just why the Mockingbird decided to pay me a visit today, I do not know. They come to my feeding station all through the winter, but with the first sign of spring, they leave for the country, I suppose, without so much as a song for their board.

I saw the White-throated Sparrows in our garden this Spring on April 16th. I expect each day to find they have gone on north and am delighted that they are lingering for a while.

The Maryland Yellow-throats have been around since April 18th, and not a day passes that I do not hear "witchity, witchity," even if I do not always see the little black-masked bird.

The Wood Thrush arrived April 21st, and the Olive-backed Thrush April 30th. Of course, the Hermit Thrush stopped with us earlier.

So far, I have not seen a Yellow-breasted Chat. They usually come with the Yellow-throats.

During the past ten days, other feathered visitors to the garden have been:

Kentucky Warbler
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Worm-eating Warbler
Yellow-throated Vireo
Oven-bird
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Black and White Warbler
Gray-cheeked Thrush
Magnolia Warbler
American Redstart
Hooded Warbler

These are busy, happy days for the bird lover and my west window will claim much of my time through the rest of the season.

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A DUCK HAWK NEAR BOWLING GREEN, KY.

On April 25, 1937, Prof. Gordon Wilson piloted a group of us to McElroy's pond south of Bowling Green, in order that we might view the assemblage of migratory waterbirds that has made the place famous. Since Prof. Wilson is planning to present his weekly tabulation of these birds in another article, I will mention only what I regarded as the most interesting bird we found present at this 600-acre 'wet-weather" lake. This was a Duck Hawk (Falco peregrinus anatum), an immature, doubtless enroute to some northerly breeding ground but tempted to tarry by the plentiful quarry on every hand. The falcon was first noted by the writer, as he and Burt Monroe were rounding the east end of the lake, as it swung about in the air attracted either by several Blue-winged Teal on the water or by a flock of 50 Lesser Yellowlegs on the shore nearby. An hour later, it appeared at the south end of the lake above a large flock of Coots. Thirty minutes afterward, however, it was located at what appeared to be its real headquarters; a shallow inlet into the lake in which were congregated hundreds of ducks, Coots and shorebirds. When the falcon flew low toward them, the shorebirds would arise in confused, mass flight and the water-fowl would mill about on the surface or dive. We watched the bird for more than half an hour but did not actually see it capture quarry. However, on one occasion it dived through a milling flock of Yellowlegs without capturing a victim. Shortly after, it flew down into an old corn field near us and alit upon a prostrate stalk as though seeking a lowly field mouse for a change in its bill-of-fare. This is a first record for the Bowling Green area. Those in our party were Gordon Wilson and son, Gordon Jr., Burt Monroe, G. R. Mayfield and the writer.

--A. F. GANIER, Nashville, Tenn.

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AN INTERESTING WINTER VISITANT ON THE OHIO RIVER

One of the most interesting and spectacular of American birds is the Duck Hawk (Falco peregrinus anatum). Few living creatures can surpass him in courage, speed and audacity. It has been the good fortune of Louisville bird students to have the opportunity of close acquaintance with one of these birds. In the fall of 1934, the Duck Hawk was first discovered on the Ohio River by Mr. Floyd Carpenter. The bird has shown a partiality to the neighborhood of Goose Island ever since then, although it has been seen on Six Mile Island and a short distance further up the river. It has returned each year to the same locality. I saw the bird about nine times during the past winter, the first date being November 14, and the last date, March 6. The hawk, if it is the same one, has been in adult plumage since first seen three years ago.

Apparantly it likes Goose Island, which is on the Kentucky side about eight miles upstream from the center of Louisville, because of the excellent view from the island and the many gulls and ducks in the vicinity as well as neighboring pigeon roosts. Although I have never seen it capture anything, it has several times been observed while feeding. I once saw a Double-crested Cormorant terribly frightened by the Duck Hawk as the former came to roost at the same spot in which the latter was sitting without seeing the hawk. Not until the Cormorant approached with set wings and outstretched feet did he see the stolid hawk confronting him. That Cormorant made one of the quickest U-turns and fastest departures in Cormorant history.

We hope that the Duck Hawk may be found nesting north of here on the river, although it is highly improbable. Audubon recorded it nesting along Green river and it nests at the present day at Reelfoot Lake. Be that as it may, we do have the Duck Hawk in winter and we hope it returns again next year. Perhaps it will bring a family with it.

—ROBERT MENGEL, Louisville, Ky.

DISTRIBUTION OF INDIVIDUAL BIRDS IN ONE VICINITY

The similarity of individuals of various species makes it virtually impossible for the observer to accurately determine the number of individuals in any given vicinity. Therein lies one of the advantages of banding.

The author lives in the Broadmeade-Strathmoor district in Louisville. The heavy planting of shrubbery and evergreens about the homes and the fact that this area lies on the outskirts of the city, makes it a mecca for bird life.

One species that has found this vicinity perfectly suited to its needs is the Eastern Cardinal (Richmondena cardinalis cardinalis). When the writer began his banding station on Thanksgiving Day, 1936, he estimated that he had eight or ten Cardinals feeding at his station. The actual number of individuals banded from the above date to the beginning of the nesting season—approximately May 1, 1937—proves how erroneous such an estimate can be, for the actual number of individuals banded as seventy-five—forty males and thirty-five females.

One would properly wonder where all of these Cardinals came from. The fact is that during the winter the young birds roam over a fairly large area, spending no great amount of time at any one spot. Adults remain, as a general rule, in the area in which they nested during the preceding summer but make no effort to defend their "territory" until the next mating season arrives. From then on, until the nesting season is over, each male has his own territory which he defends against any and all intruders of the same species. Sometimes this territory is only a part of a back yard; again it may include a fairly large area.

Thus far, only two males, No. 36-219413, banded Dec. 6, 1936, and No. 36-219407, banded Dec. 7, 1936, are feeding at the author's station and the banding dates would indicate that they remained in the territory all winter.

With the coming of Fall, the nestlings of this summer will commence their wanderings and although you may imagine that you are seeing the same Cardinal at your feeding station each morning, the chances are that you may be seeing any one of twenty-five or more, one of which—the male whose territory included your home—will remain with you all winter.

—JAMES BOSWELL YOUNG, Louisville, Ky.

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SHORT-EARED OWL AT LOUISVILLE, KY.

The incentive for writing this paper came, when, on talking with Burt Monroe, I found that the Short-eared Owl (Asio flammeus flammeus) was a rare transient and winter resident which he had never recorded himself. This called to mind several incidents which at the time seemed insignificant but suddenly appeared important.

In October, 1933, Short-eared Owls had taken up residence in a grassy meadow not far from Bowman Field, the Louisville Airport. There they were often seen in company with Marsh Hawks. It was unusual to see one, however, without flushing it. In November, two were killed, one of which is in the writer's possession. On the following day, a flock of nine was flushed at one time. The group circled higher and higher in the late afternoon sky, with their peculiar batlike flight, and finally disappeared in the gathering darkness. Two more owls from this flock were later killed by a hunter and sent to Eugene Wenz, who still has them, for mounting.

A cold, rainy day in late Fall found the author near Buechel, Ky. A strange shape in a tree turned out to be a Short-eared Owl, perched about thirty feet up, which, in itself, is rather unusual since this owl is rather terrestrial in habits. This record was on November 21, 1936.

—ROBERT MENGEL, Louisville, Ky.

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NESTING OF THE EASTERN HOUSE WREN AT LOUISVILLE, KY.

The subject of much controversy in the state in recent years has been that small, brown mite, the Eastern House Wren (Troglodytes aedon aedon). It has been claimed by some, and perhaps correctly, that the House Wren formerly did not nest at all in Kentucky. Apparently, according to Brasher Bacon, this Wren absolutely does not nest at Madisonville, Hopkins County, Ky., and Carlisle Chamberlain says that it does not nest in Oldham County, the Bewick's Wren (Thryomanes bewicki bewicki) being the "house" wren there.

In view of this, I would like to cite records in my knowledge of the House Wren's nesting at Louisville. The only wren I remember in my childhood is the House Wren and it was not until four years ago that I made the acquaintance of the Bewick's Wren. The House Wren nested on our place in Village Drive for several years. At least five nests were definitely identified and a set of six eggs, now in the collection of Burt Monroe, was taken. Not only did the Wrens nest there, but built in boxes nailed twenty feet up on the back of the house. I also have fragments of egg shells from several other abandoned nests. Miss Mabel Slack tells me that House Wrens have raised broods in her yard for two years, and now are nesting further down the street.

Summing my records up, I find the House Wren has nested at the following places: Village Drive, Louisville, 1931-1932-1933-1934; Murray Avenue, 1937; Alta Avenue, 1936-1937; Everett Avenue, 1935-1936-1937; Mockingbird Valley, 1937; Buechel, Ky., 1937; Glenview, Ky., 1937. During all the period I have not found the Bewick's Wren nesting closer to Louisville than Buechel, where both species were found nsting.

It would seem then that the Bewick's Wren prefers farms and small towns as nesting situations while the House Wren is more a bird of the city suburbs, although not confined to it altogether. Any further evidence on this subject would be appreciated, and it is suggested that members throughout Kentucky cooperate in this study.

—ROBERT MENGEL, Louisville, Ky.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Organized April, 1923

President..........Mr. Brasher C. Bacon, Madisonville, Ky.
Vice-President..........Dr. Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green, Ky.
Secretary-Treasurer—Miss Evelyn Schneider, 2207 Alta Ave., Louisville, Ky.

Meets annually in Louisville during the week of the Kentucky Education Association; in the fall at some town or park in the state.

Dues: Active, $1.00; Group (of ten or more children under sixteen years of age), 25c a person.

Address correspondence about the WARBLER to Burt L. Monroe, 207 No. Birchwood Ave., Louisville, Ky. Send dues to the Secretary-Treasurer.

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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
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The Kentucky Warbler

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FALL MEETING OF THE K. O. S.

"ON THIS CORNER STOOD THE GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORE OF JOHN JAMES AUDUBON—1810-1820."

Thus reads the memorial tablet marking the location of John James Audubon's store in Henderson, Kentucky.

Past yellow banks and red banks the Ohio winds through the "Pennyrile," curving a gentle course. On the Kentucky side the river flows by noble wooded, beautifully colored, autumn hills. The chirps and actions of migrating birds, the gentle falling leaves, the faintly audible odor of the fragrant, pungent "pennyroyal." lend a peaceful note to a lovely setting. The river curves where it is viewed from the site of the Audubon Mill Park. Here is the "corner" where the members of the Kentucky Ornithological Society will stand and pay silent tribute to the memory of the man from whose "store" of ornithological knowledge many of us received the "merchandise" necessary to sustain our enthusiasm and to urge us to carry on.

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LOUIS AGASSIZ FUERTES

— A SKETCH —

By Dorothy Madden Hobson, Louisville, Ky.

August the twenty-second of this year marked the tenth anniversary of the passing of one of the greatest artists of bird-life—Louis Agassiz Fuertes, who was accidentally killed in crossing a railroad at Unadilla, N. Y. This untimely passing occured while Fuertes was on his way to his home in Ithaca, N. Y., after he and Mrs. Fuertes had spent the preceding weekend with the Chapmans in the Catskills.

Of him Dr. Frank Chapman wrote: "His death at the age of fifty-four years, in his physical prime and when his art was approaching its finest expression, was an irreparable loss to ornithology and an overwhelming catastrophe to his friends. To me life has never been the same. Twenty-six years had passed since Fuertes and I had made our first trip together. The trials of camp life and the inconveniences of travel in remote places are too often beyond the endurance of fair-weather travelers, but with Fuertes they merely supplied the acid test that proved the pure gold of his nature. His clear-eyed, sunny temperament, his resourcefulness and generosity, his simplicity and genuineness, his spontaneous humor and originality of expression made him the ideal companion in

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camp and out. One never tired of being with Fuertes. The end of each expedition found us planning another."

Fuertes' works were first brought to the attention of ornithologists in 1895 when Coues exhibited the work of his protege at the A. O. U. meeting in Washington, D. C. The following year when he was a junior at Cornell where his father was a professor, Fuertes, himself, appeared at the meeting of the A. O. U. and another group of his drawings was exhibited. They were the sensation of the meeting. He was at that time already illustrating **Citizen Bird** for Dr. Coues and Mabel Osgood Wright.

Beginning with **Birding on a Bronco** in 1896, the books he illustrated include **Citizen Bird, Birdcraft, Handbook of Birds of the Western United States, Coues Key Handbook of Birds of the Eastern United States, Upland Game Birds, Waterfowl, Birds of New York, the Burgess Bird Book** and the **Birds of Massachusetts.**

Although he is gone, much remains in Ithaca, N. Y., to remind one of the great artist who lived there. Many friends he had and about town it is said that he was always the best-loved member of the University community. These friends all have words of praise and admiration for the man. Two or three years ago, when a young Cornell professor, who had been reared in Ithaca, was visiting us in Louisville I asked him if he had known Fuertes, the bird artist. His face brightened and he half questioned, half exclaimed, "Uncle Louie?!" Fuertes, who had loved children and who had always maintained a keen interest in the Boy Scout organization had been his beloved scoutmaster. The bird sanctuary at the head of Lake Cayuga in Ithaca is a memorial to the artist-naturalist and is called the Fuertes Bird Sanctuary. It was dedicated on Memorial Day in 1933 while we were in Ithaca. The ornithology library also is named in his honor, being called the Fuertes Room. A collection of original Fuertes paintings decorates the walls, while the falcons the artist used as models are also on exhibition.

To me, one of the high points of last summer, which was spent in Ithaca, N. Y., was a visit to the Fuertes home there where his charming widow continues to reside. The cheerful fire burning in the fire-place, the old mahogany furniture, the books and pictures and gracious Mrs. Fuertes, herself, created an atmosphere long to be remembered. The numerous pictures on the walls claimed our attention at once; each picture was closely examined and admired while Mrs. Fuertes made interesting comments concerning it. The loveliest of all that of a flight of geese, hung over the mantle. Her husband saw this scene from the window of their home, "but, artist-like," she commented, "he didn't have the right kind of paper when he needed it, so he had to use two sheets of paper in order to have the size he desired." She added that many people had seen and admired that picture and had asked for it. It was a favorite of both Mr. and Mrs. Fuertes and they did not wish to part with it, so attention was always called by them to the seam in the center and they would exclaim, "You wouldn't want that!" Instead, Fuertes would make a copy on a single sheet of paper, but never did he succeed in duplicating the charm of the original.

On the wall to the right of the fire-place was a lovely painting of moths—this, too, was the work of Fuertes. A painting by Abott Thayer's daughter was admired. Her distinguished father, an artist-naturalist, the discoverer of "counter-shading" was a friend and teacher of Fuertes. The latter always gave Thayer credit for the technique he developed.

Mrs. Fuertes called our attention to a lovely flower painting suggestive of Japanese composition. A Japanese artist and admirer of her husband, but unknown to the latter, called upon him one day, but Fuertes was not at home. The caller left this painting as a gift to the "great Fuertes" and asked to have his respects paid to the artist. Fuertes was delighted with the gift.

Clever Christmas cards Major Allen Brooks had sent Mrs. Fuertes were shown to us. At the time of his passing, Fuertes was working on the illustrations for Forbush's **Birds of Massachusetts and other New England States.** To complete this unfinished work, Mrs. Fuertes procured the service of Brooks.

Mrs. Fuertes unwrapped a huge package which contained a great number of sketches by her husband. They had recenty been on exhibition at Goodspeed's in Boston. How carefully and almost reverently we handled those precious sketches! Many of them were recognized as those used to illustrate various bird books with which most of us are familiar. As we admired and studied these works of art she told us interesting bits about her famous husband. She said that unlike Mrs. Frank Chapman, who frequently accompanied her husband on expeditions, she remained at home "caring for the babies" while Fuertes went on the bird trips which took him to the Bering Sea, Alberta, Saskatchewan, the Gulf of the St. Lawrence, California, Nevada, Texas, Minnesota, Florida, the Bahamas, Yucatan, Mexico, Columbia and last of all Abbyssinia. The wife of the artist never knew what to expect next. One night she arose to heat the baby's milk and to her consternation found and **heard** a Loon in the bath tub where her husband had placed it for an experimental purpose. She told of the enigmatic telegram heralding his arrival from an expedition, "Bombay and I will arrive" at such and such a time; **Bombay** proved to be a parrot—a **male** parrot Fuertes **thought** but to his surprise Bombay laid an egg on Feb. 22, whereupon the artist remarked, "Bombay cannot tell a lie." Mrs. Fuertes told about the suitcase prank played upon him by Dr. Chapman. The latter in his book **Autobiography of a Bird Lover** also relates the joke. It seemed that as Dr. Chapman and Fuertes boarded a train for Vera Cruz, Mexico, the former saw an old negress carrying a suitcase similar to the one Fuertes had packed to take on the trip. "See here, Louis," I said, "that woman has your suitcase." (Fuertes forgot for the moment that Chapman had persuaded him to leave that piece of baggage behind) "'So she has,' he answered, and with a 'That's mine, Auntie,' proceeded to dispossess her. Result, vociferous indignation on her part, realization and chagrin on Louis, unconcealed joy on mine."

As we were preparing to leave, our hostess asked if we would like to see Fuerte's studio which was apart from the house; but to my disappointment the key could not be found. George Sutton, who uses the studio when he is in town, had misplaced the key before leaving for the Adirondacks.

As a result of this memorable visit I came away from Ithaca with an original sketch by Louis Agassiz Fuertes—a beautiful head of the Wilson's Snipe, which was originally used to illustrate Florence Merriam Bailey's **Birds of the Western United States.**

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"SEEK AND YE SHALL FIND"

By Leonard C. Brecher, Louisville, Ky.

On quite a number of occasions I have been asked, "What do you see in looking at the birds all the time?" or "Why do you tramp the fields every time you get a chance, in preference to doing more useful, or more worthwhile things?" Well, the answer to those questions is that the same urge that posseses the explorer, the pioneer, or the laboratory research worker is dominant here. In addition, there is the pleasure of meeting old friends as they return season after season, as well as the added satisfaction of greeting one that hasn't been seen for several years, or the thrill of meeting a distinguished stranger.

Many of these strangers with whom we would become acquainted are in our vicinity, available for an interview, if we are only there at the right time and place to greet them. Some of them are rather bold, and obligingly cross our paths, but others, of a more retiring nature, elude us and require the perseverance of a reporter to corner them. And so it is that I, along with countless others, go looking, greeting old companions, searching for an old acquaintance, awaiting a noted personage to add to my list of friends.

At the Falls of the Ohio, we of Louisville have a unique opportunity. These are no ordiary falls, in the usual sense of the word, but the bare exposed fossilized rock of the river bed. In the fall of the year, when the flow of the water is low, so that most of it is impounded behind the dam, there is an area several blocks wide and a mile long, filled with "pot holes," crevices, and flat rock, either dry or covered with shallow water. Here the shore birds gather to feed in fluctuating numbers—a veritable paradise for them and for the bird lover too.

On August 21, when the water was low enough to get out on this table land, a group of us found 5 Black Terns, 2 Caspian Terns, between 30 and 40 Kildeer Plover, about 6 Semi palmated Plover, 18 Semi palmated Sandpipers, 14 Least Sandpipers, 1 spotted Sandpiper, 2 Pectoral Sandpipers, 8 Lesser Yellowlegs, and 12 Green Herons. These were regular visitors or permanent residents, but the noted strangers were also found. We had a beautiful view of 5 Snowy Egrets, resplendent in the sunlight. Their yellow feet showed clearly as they lifted their black legs out of the water. Then we had several very close views of a Willet. After we approached to within twenty feet it took wing, and a half hour later, while we were protected by a group of willows, it glided back, about 50 feet away. After trailing it, we noticed that it limped slightly, evidently having been hurt at some time. And to complete the afternoon's surprises, 2 Dowitchers were seen.

On another occasion almost a month later, on the 18th of September, we found a Golden Plover, 9 Killdeer Plover, 7 Spotted Sandpipers, 7 Sanderlings, 14 Pectoral Sandpipers, 2 Dowitchers, 6 Blue-wing Teal, 3 Black-crowned Night Herons, and an Osprey. Due to the fact that the water was rather high this day (as it had been more often this season than others), we couldn't get close enough to identify positively many smaller Sandpipers, Yellowlegs, and others. The high spot of this trip was watching the Osprey. It came from downstream, 'till almost opposite us, then it circled, swooped to the water near the Indiana shore, rose, circled and then, when directly over the middle of the stream, plunged abruptly into the water. It completely disappeared from sight and after a few seconds it emerged with a gleaming fish in its talons. It then headed for the Indiana shore where we thought it would perch. Instead, it rose higher and headed downstream and inland until it was lost to view in the clear blue sky. To us the amazing thing was the distance it flew before it found a suitable place to eat its meal.

However, bird life is not limited to the Falls of the Ohio, and just as many interesting finds can be made up the river, in the ponds, and even the hills. At various times in the first three weeks of September, I have seen Common Terns, American Egrets, Little Blue Herons (mostly the young with their white plumage), and Great Blue Herons.

On the 21st we saw a Duck Hawk, which is a very early record for this vicinity, but we had a very good view of him as he perched on a dead tree on Goose Island. He was facing toward us and his large yellow feet and the black mustache-marks stood out clearly in the early morning sun.

On Sept. 19th I was out in the Oldham County hills, looking for warblers. I had turned my glasses on many of these yellowish creatures, now and then identifying a Redstart, a Black-throated Green, or a Chestnut-sided. For the most part they were too indistinctly marked for me to positively name them, but "Seek and Ye Shall Find." I was seated on a log watching a Flycatcher on a small dead tree about 30 feet away. Suddenly a small bird with a black throat flew to one of the dead branches. "Chickadee," I murmured to myself as I swung my glasses to check. "What's this? A yellow head? Seems like I've got something here! It can't be a Black-throated Green—too clean and white and no wing bars. Wait, that's a yellowish patch on the wings—Boy, I remember that picture in Reed. The Golden Winged." Seek and ye shall find—only I've been seeking that one almost twenty years!

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NESTING OF THE WORM-EATING WARBLER IN HOPKINS COUNTY, KENTUCKY

On May 11th, 1935, while a small group of persons, myself included, were hiking in the woods near the Robert Schmetzer farm, about ten miles from Madisonville, one of the party, Charles Mangum, chanced to flush a small bird from its nest on the ground. He called to me and I found the nest to be that of the Worm-eating Warbler (Helmitheros vermivorus). The nest was a neat little structure, built among leaves, and contained three white eggs, speckled with brown. Later, the nest, eggs and bird were collected, and these are now in the collection of Mr. Brasher C. Bacon, of Madisonville, Ky. This is, so far as I have any knowledge, one of the first established records on the nesting of the Worm-eating Warbler in the State of Kentucky.

—JAMES WILLIAM HANCOCK,
Madisonville, Ky.

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RECENT RECORDS OF THE MISSISSIPPI KITE

A trip to Tunnel Mill Scout Camp, four miles east of Charlestown, Ind., on June 26, was made unusually interesting by the accidental discovery of a bird rarely seen in this neighborhood. Although the sun shone brightly there were in the distance dark clouds and an unmistakable thunderstorm. As I watched this distant storm from a hill top, I stopped to observe a few soaring Turkey Vultures through my glasses. Within the field of view there was another bird which had not been visible to the naked eye. Obviously different from the Vultures, with a tail comparatively long and narrow and the wings recurved somewhat from back to front, this bird soared higher and faster and with far greater ease and grace than the Turkey Vultures. It resorted to flapping only twice and then for only a few strokes each time, but I could see that its wing stroke was more rapid than that of a vulture. Once it glided to a height low enough so that its partly light, partly dark underparts could easily be seen. Its wing spread was two-thirds that of a Turkey Vulture. I watched it for fully five minutes before it went out of sight.

The bird was undoubtedly a Mississippi Kite (Ictinia Misisippiensis), and I remembered two other occasions when Mississippi Kites had been discovered in a similar manner while in Bernheim Forest. Once, while I was observing a Cooper's Hawk through glasses, the Kite came into the field of view, far above and beyond the Hawk. Several hours later I saw the Kite skim across a wide gap in the trees just over the tree tops. On the second occasion, while watching Turkey Vultures in flight, I discovered a Kite soaring in the field of view, though it had not been noticed with the naked eye.

In this connection it may be interesting to note Alexander Wilson's observations concerning the Mississippi Kite:*

"In my preambulations I frequently remarked this hawk sailing about in easy circles, and at a considerable height in the air, generally in company with the turkey buzzards, whose manner of flight it so exactly imitates as to seem the same species, only in miniature, or seen at a more immense height. Why these two birds, whose food and manners, in other respects, are so different, should so frequently associate together in air, I am at a loss to comprehend. We cannot for a moment suppose them mutually deceived by the similarity of each other's flight: the keenness of their vision forbids all suspicion of this kind. They may perhaps be engaged, at such times, in mere amusement, as they are observed to soar to great heights previous to a storm; or, what is more probable, they may both be in pursuit of their respective food. One, that he may reconnoitre a vast extent of surface below, and trace the tainted atmosphere to his favourite carrion; the other in search of those large beetles, or coleopterous insects, that are known often to wing the higher regions of the air; and which, in three individuals of this species of hawk which I examined by dissection, were the only substances found in their stomachs. For several miles, as I passed near Bayo Manchak, the trees were swarming with a kind of cicada, or locust, that made a deafening noise; and here I observed numbers of the hawk now before us sweeping about among the trees like swallows, evidently in pursuit of these locusts."

Though Wilson wondered at this association, our knowledge of aeronautics today teaches that in order to continue soaring, birds must remain in the field of rising air currents. Incidentally, such air currents exist to the front and to the side of an approaching storm. Since these currents are often local, soaring birds will frequent the same current and will therefore be seen together. As the location of air currents changes, the birds fly together as the current moves.

Wilson's writing also confirms my observation of the Kite skimming the tree tops, probably in pursuit of insects, even as they were seen a century and a quarter ago.

—FLOYD S. CARPENTER,
Louisville, Ky.

***American Ornithology** . . . by Alexander Wilson.
Edinburgh, 1831. Vol. I, P. 72-73.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

On many occasions, we have called the attention of members of the K. O. S. to the request we have been making for back numbers of the Warbler. The wanted numbers are Vol. I, No. 4; Vol. IV, No. 3; Vol. V, Nos. 1 and 4. Anyone having these copies for sale, or who can give us information as to where they can be secured, are urgently requested to contact the Secretary, Miss Evelyn J. Schneider, of 2207 Alta Ave., Louisville, Ky., or to communicate directly with Mr. George Seth Guion, 1701 American Bank Building, New Orleans, La.

LEON O. PINDAR CHAPTER ORGANIZED AT MADISONVILLE

At an enthusiastic meeting held at the Spring Lake Club, September 23, a bird and nature club was organized for the purpose of cooperating with the Kentucky Ornithological Society in the study and conservation of bird life, to engage in the study of nature in all its phases, and to encourage conservation of the natural resourses of Kentucky.

Brasher C. Bacon, president, and one of the three founders of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, outlined the purpose of the meeting, including plans for a year's program of group activities which included Spring and Fall field days, overnight and weekend camping and weekly meetings at Spring Lake Refuge which will be maintained as headquarters.

The organization is to be known as the "Leon O. Pindar Bird and Nature Club," named for the late Dr. Leon O. Pindar, veteran ornithologist and one of the founders of the Kentucky Ornithological Society. The organization is an extra curricular activity of the Madisonville High School and under the direct supervision of Mr. Bacon. The faculty, composed of outstanding authorities on nature study and the out-of-doors were introduced to the club by Mr. Bacon and included: Mr. J. E. Threlkeld, club activities; Raymond J. Fleetwood, ornithology; Sherwood C. Nichols, forestry; James K. Harrison, woodcraft and camping; S. Jamerson Jones, Biological Survey Activities, and Miss Marguerite Winstead, girls camping activities. Adult and Student groups will be maintained.

The following officers were elected: Raymond J. Fleetwood, president; Robert J. Wilson, vice-president; Miss Thelma Gentry, secretary-treasurer; Miss Florence Tomblinson, James Kelley and Henry J. Tudor, councilors, and Jas. W. Hancock, curator.

MISS THELMA GENTRY, Secretary,
Leon O. Pindar Bird and Nature Club.

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JOHN JAMES AUDUBON CHAPTER ORGANIZED AT HENDERSON

A chapter of the Kentucky Ornithological Society was organized at Henderson, October 16th. The organization is to be known as the John James Audubon Chapter, named for the well known artist and ornithologist who lived in Henderson, from 1810 to 1820, and to whose memory the Audubon Memorial Park is dedicated.

Mr. Brasher C. Bacon, president of the society, assisted in the organization, outlining the purpose of the meeting, which also included out-of-door programs for the coming year.

The Audubon Chapter is very fortunate in the fact that it will have the Audubon Park and Museum for its studies. The local chapter will cooperate with the Kentucky Ornithological Society in the study of the bird life of Henderson County. It will function with the community of Henderson in promoting interest in John James Audubon and the Audubon Memorial Park.

Spring and Fall field days, weekly meetings, and field trips are planned to points of interest, all phases of nature will be included in the programs.

The following officers were elected: Mr. Virgil D. King, president; Mr. Fred T. Boone, vice-president; Miss Kathryn Gibson, secretary-treasurer; Miss Susan Starling Towles, Miss Maud Musgrave, Mr. David Clark, Mr. Oscar Letcher were elected councilors of the club.

MISS KATHRYN GIBSON, Secretary,
John James Audubon Chapter.

SWAINSON WARBLER IN BULLITT COUNTY

A trip to Bernheim Forest on June 27 brought another interesting discovery. Down along Wilson Creek, where a small branch enters, I came to a pool of water with much rank undergrowth; bulrushes abounded, and trees and weeds grew in profusion along the sides. There were many small birds in the trees, but one in particular attracted my attention as being very unusual. I thought immediately that it looked like a Swainson's Warbler (Limnothlypis Swainsoni), but on account of its rarity began looking for the marks of the Worm-eating Warbler.

With me was Theo White, not an accomplished bird student, but a man with singularly accurate observation and keen hearing. I asked him to note carefully all the markings of this bird. For at least five minutes it stayed within thirty to a hundred feet of us and sang frequently its loud, clear, cheerful song, unusually loud for a warbler. Theo confirmed my observation that the top of the head was a solid color, that there was a dark streak through the eye and a light stripe above it; the underparts were whitish and unstreaked. I read to Theo from Peterson and Reed, without giving the names of the birds, the descriptions of all those with which the Swainson's Warbler might be confused; in each case he chose the description of the same bird as fitting our loud little songster. On showing him pictures, with the names covered, he again chose the same bird. In each case it was the Swainson's Warbler. The habitat and the nature of the song checked with the description in Reed and in the Handbook of the Warblers of North America. Since it sang so vigorously and continuously on this late June day, I conjectured that it was possibly a male singing in the region of its nest. Although we looked carefully, however, we discovered no nest.

I had never before seen a Swainson's Warbler in life. Only the skins in the C. W. Beckham Collection.

—FLOYD S. CARPENTER,
Louisville, Ky.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Organized April, 1923

President..............Mr. Brasher C. Bacon, Madisonville, Ky.
Vice-President..............Dr. Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green, Ky.
Secretary-Treasurer—Miss Evelyn Schneider, 2207 Alta Ave., Louisville, Ky.

Meets annually in Louisville during the week of the Kentucky Education Association; in the fall at some town or park in the state.

Annual membership dues in the Kentucky Ornithological Society, $1.00.

Address correspondence about the WARBLER to Burt L. Monroe, 207 No. Birchwood Ave., Louisville, Ky. Send dues to the Secretary-Treasurer.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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Division of Birds

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. . . The . . .
Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparking from the dull and the true from the false is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Volume XIV WINTER 1938 No. 1

SOME BREEDING BIRDS OF LETCHER COUNTY, KENTUCKY

By DR. J. J. MURRAY, Lexington, Va.

Papers on the bird life of the mountains of eastern Kentucky have been so few that even the incomplete notes presented in this article may be of some interest. There is possibly no area of similar extent and importance in the whole Appalachian region about which so little has been written. The chief papers that I can call to mind are those by Arthur H. Howell (Auk, July, 1910, 80 Kentucky species); Dr. Witmer Stone (Auk, July, 1921); and the migration studies by R. E. Horsey (Auk, January, 1921, 1923, 1927).

The country in Letcher County is very rough, with narrow valleys and small farms; low, wooded hills, irregular in outline; and a few higher mountain ranges. The eastern boundary of the county, along the Virginia-Kentucky line, is formed by the Black (Cumberland) Mountains, rising in places to 3,500 feet. Pine Mountain, running roughly north and south through the eastern half of the county, almost reaches 3,000 feet. The lower ridges run from 1,500 to 1,800 feet. The North Fork of the Kentucky River runs westward through the county, its valley being about 1,000 feet at its lowest point. Some of the tributary valleys are considerably higher. All of this territory, except the upper reaches of the mountains and higher ridges, is definitely Carolinian in character. Carolinian species press up even on the highest mountains and mingle there with typical Transition forms. There was no suggestion of Canadian fauna even on the great Black Mountain above Lynch in Harlan County, at 3,500 feet.

From June 4 to 11, 1935, I spent a week at the Stuart Robinson School, near the mining village of Blackey, Letcher County. Unless otherwise indicated all observations were made along Rockhouse Creek, which drains into the Kentucky River near Blackey. The elevation of the creek valley at the school is just above 1,000 feet. Some negative results may be of interest. I was very much surprised that not a single Turkey Vulture was seen during the week. Neither did I see a Crow. No hawks were seen, which seems strange in such country, and no owls. I did not see a Green Heron nor a Kingfisher along the stream. There were no Meadowlarks or Red-Wings, there being no suitable places for either of these birds. Blue Jays were not noted except on wooded ridges. Towhees were absent in the valleys in places which seemed admirably suited for them, although a few were seen on the ridges. The list of birds which were noted follows:

1. Bob-white. Common.

2. Mourning Dove. Scarce.

3-4. Yellow-billed and Black-billed Cuckoo. Cuckoos were fairly common. I think both forms occur, although the only bird which I saw well enough to identify positively was the Black-billed.

5. Whip-poor-will. One heard on two nights, 5th and 6th, near the school.

6. Chimney Swift. Common.

7. Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Fairly common.

8. Flicker. Only three seen, one at the top of Pine Mountain, the others near Blackey.

9. Downy Woodpecker. Common.

10. Phoebe. Fairly common, both in the valley and on the ridges.

1 . Acadian Flycatcher. Abundant.

12. Wood Pewee. Common.

13. Rough-winged Swallow. Some five pairs along the creek. Two occupied nests, in the face of a limestone cliff above a railroad track. I was interested in the type of nesting cavity, which was new to my experience. They were not excavated by the birds but were small natural cavaties in the rock. I am told by Mr. Burt L. Monroe that similar sites are often used near Louisville. I could not reach the nests with my hand.

14. Blue Jay. Only one seen, on Eastern Rocks, a high hill above Blackey.

15. Carolina Chickadee. Fairly common.

16. Tufted Titmouse. Fairly common. A nest with five or six well-grown young in a hole in a small dogwood on the 6th. They were not shy and fed the young while I was standing near. An adult did not leave the nest while I peered in.

17. Bewick's Wren. A male singing on a dry hillside above Blackey.

18. Carolina Wren. Abundant. Young out of the nest, on the 5th.

19. Mockingbird. One pair on the campus. I was shown an empty nest where a brood had been raised that season.

20. Catbird. Fairly common.

21. Brown Thrasher. Fairly common.

22. Robin. In all only four or five pairs.

23. Wood Thrush. Abundant. Young birds just from the nest.

24. Bluebird. Uncommon. Young on telephone wires, being fed, on the 10th.

25. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. Fairly Common. A pair acted as if I were near a nest.

26. Cedar Waxwing. Only two seen.

27. Starling. Some three pairs at the school. Carrying food.

28. White-eyed Vireo. I heard the unmistakable song once along the creek. On the 11th I found one about two-thirds of the way up Pound Mountain from Jenkins.

29. Yellow-throated Vireo. One on the 6th.

30. Red-eyed Vireo. Abundant.

31. Black and White Warbler. Fairly common at all elevations.

32. Parula Warbler. Abundant.

33. Yellow Warbler. Abundant. Carrying food on the 5th. The song of these birds differed from that in western Virginia, being shorter and with a more brilliant quality, somewhat like the Redstart's song.

34. Cerulean Warbler. At least eight singing males.

35. Yellow-throated (?) Warbler. On the 6th I heard a brilliant warbler song, with a quality like the song of the Louisiana Water-thrush, coming from the top of a high pine on a wooded hillside. Following it up I found a pair of warblers of the dominica species feeding several young. As it was so high and the sunlight so blinding I could not tell whether the line over the eye was yellow or white, but as the song of the Sycamore Warbles is said to be very different from this song I took these birds to be the Yellow-throated.

36. Prairie Warbler. One each day at several places, one of them being high up on Easter Rocks near where a Scarlet Tanager was seen.

37. Oven-bird. Fairly common.

38, Louisiana Water-thrush. One fully-grown young bird following an adult near the creek on the 10th.

39. Kentucky Warbler. Two pairs.

40. Maryland Yellow-throat. Fairly common. The song of these birds was also noticeably different from that of our Virginia birds, though the difference is not easy to express. The Virginia bird says, "witchety, witchety, witchety;" while the Kentucky birds said, "tseet-e-rer, tseet-e-rer, -tseet-e-rer, tseet."

41. Yellow-breasted Chat. Common everywhere. This Austral bird was singing even at the top of the Black Mountain, in close proximity to the Mountain Vireo and the Chestnut-sided Warbler.

42. Hooded Warbler. Fairly common. Carrying food. It was seen along the creek, and also on the Pine and Black Mountains.

43. Redstart. Fairly common.

44. English Sparrow. Abundant around houses.

45. Orchard Oriole. Fairly common.

46. Baltimore Oriole. One male on the 8th.

47. Cowbird. A few around the school dairy barn.

48. Scarlet Tanager. Common on the higher hills above the creek. Seen on Pine and Pound Mountains.

49. Summer Tanager. Uncommon. A few on the lower hills near the creek; one seen in Poor Fork Valley between Pine Mountain and the town of Cumberland; one seen half-way up Pound Mountain. At this last place I could hear a Scarlet Tanager above me and a Summer Tanager below singing at the same time. On the 7th I found a nest with three small young, 10 feet up at the top of a small walnut tree over-grown with Virginia Creeper vines.

50. Cardinal. Abundant.

51. Indigo Bunting. Abundant. Nest on the 7th with four fresh eggs.

52. Goldfinch. Common.

53. Towhee. Absent in the valley; one on Easter Rocks; common on Pine Mountain; one on Pound Mountain.

54. Chipping Sparrow. Abundant. Carrying food.

55. Field Sparrow. Abundant.

56. Song Sparrow. Abundant along the streams.

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KENTUCKY WARBLER'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CENSUS

The response to our appeal for the Christmas Census was somewhat under that of last year and as a result, there was a decrease of four in the number of species recorded from 1936. However, the seven state lists turned in made up in quality what they lacked in numbers. Many fine discoveries were made including a new bird for the state check list.

Louisville, aided tremendously by waterfowl on the Ohio River, was able to head the list with 55 species and 11,650 individuals, topping the Bowling Green list of 48 species and 3876 individuals. Competition is becoming keener each season and adds zest to the undertaking.

It is disappointing that several lists sent in last year were missing this year. We hope those members will take part in 1938. We welcome the list of Ercel Kozee from the "far East" and thank him, as well as the old stand-bys for their co-operation.

* * * * * *

Madisonville, Ky. (Spring Lake, Brown Meadow Lake, Manitou and back)—Dec. 21; 6:30 A. M. to 3:30 P. M. Clear; wind south, strong; temperature 27 at start; 43 at return. 46 Miles by auto; 2 miles on foot.

Scaup Duck, 5; Turkey Vulture, 1; Black Vulture, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 7; Bob-white, 18 (covey); American Coot, 1; Mourning Dove, 5; Screech Owl, 1; Northern Flicker, 2; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 5; Prairie Horned Lark, 2; Blue Jay, 12; Crow, 30; Carolina Chickadee, 8; Tufted Titmouse, 3; Brown Creeper, 1; Carolina Wren, 6; Mocking-bird, 5; Robin, 1; Bluebird, 3; Starling, 150; English Sparrow, 135; Meadowlark, 15; Cardinal, 21; Goldfinch, 9; Red-eyed Towhee, 10; Slate-colored Junco, 80; Tree Sparrow, 15; Field Sparrow, 3; White-throated Sparrow, 25; Song Sparrow, 21.

Total, 33 species, about 505 individuals.

RAYMOND J. FLEETWOOD,
SHERWOOD NICHOLS.

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Madisonville, Hopkins County, Ky. (W. W. Hancock farm, Loch Mary, Clear Creek, Spring Lake, Princeton and Hecla Roads, woods, streets and open country)—December 30, 1937, 7:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Calm; foggy in early morning, cloudy remainder of the day. Temperature 43 degrees at start, 53 degrees at return. About nine miles on foot.

Sparrow Hawk, 3; Bob-white, 16; Flicker, 14; Pileated Woodpecker, 2; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 14; Red-headed Woodpecker, 3; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 6; Blue Jay, 18; Crow, 8; Carolina Chickadee, 14; Tufted Titmouse, 14; Winter Wren, 1; Bewick's Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 17; Mockingbird, 8; Robin, 12; Hermit Thrush, 4; Bluebird, 17; Cedar Waxwing, 3; Starling, 10; English Sparrow, 300; Meadowlark, 3; Red-winged Blackbird, 28; Cardinal, 50; Purple Finch, 5; Goldfinch, 18; Red-eyed Towhee, 22; Slate-colored Junco, 61; Tree Sparrow, 103; Field Sparrow, 1; White-crowned Sparrow, 5; White-throated Sparrow, 13; Fox Sparrow, 2; Swamp Sparrow, 9; Song Sparrow, 24. Total, 37 species, 833 individuals. Other species recorded December 28—Lesser Scaup Duck, 4; Barred Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 2; American Pipit (?) 4.

JAMES WILLIAM HANCOCK.

* * * * * *

Bowling Green, Ky.—Dec. 20, 7:00 A. M. to 4:30 P. M., Smith, Covington, and Nye farms; along Drake's and Jennings Creek; Sally's Rock; an area about thirteen miles in diameter. Cloudy; ground bare; wind, northwest, brisk; temp. 28 at start, 40 at return. Observers in three parties. Black Vulture, 3; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Marsh Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 3; Bob-white, 19 (one flock of 15); Mourning Dove, 7; Screech Owl, 1; Barred Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 1; Flicker, 13; Pileated Woodpecker, 8; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 14; Red-headed Woodpecker, 29; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 5; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Southern Downy Woodpecker, 22; Prairie Horned Lark, 136; Blue Jay, 60; Crow, 1000; Carolina Chickadee, 116; Tufted Titmouse, 71; White-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Brown Creeper, 1; Bewick's Wren, 3; Carolina Wren, 34; Mockingbird, 51; Robin, 36; Bluebird, 46; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 4; Cedar Waxwing, 130; Starling, 596; Myrtle Warbler, 17; English Sparrow, 430; Meadowlark, 32; Eastern Red-wing, 20; Bronzed Grackle, 3; Cardinal, 122; Purple Finch, 136; Goldfinch, 58; Red-eyed Towhee, 46; Slate-colored Junco, 329; Tree Sparrow, 42; Field Sparrow, 79; White-crowned Sparrow, 46; White-throated Sparrow, 22; Fox Sparrow, 6; Swamp Sparrow, 10; Song Sparrow, 50. Total, 48 species, 3876 individuals. Other species known to be wintering here—Red-tailed Hawk, Killdeer, Migrant Shrike, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Winter Wren, Turkey Vulture.

HAYWARD BROWN,

JO ALLEN BRYANT,

L. Y. LANCASTER,

CHARLES L. TAYLOR,

J. R. WHITMER,

GORDON WILSON.

* * * * * *

Glasgow, Ky.—(Starr, Darter, and Wininger Farms; along Beaver Creek, west of Glasgow). Dec. 23. 7:30 A. M. to 3:15 P. M. Cloudy; wind, northeast, light; ground bare; temp. 42 at start, 46 at return. About twelve miles on foot. Canada Goose, 40; Turkey Vulture, 2; Black Vulture, 5; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Bob-white 11; Mourning Dove, 40; Northern Flicker, 13; Pileated Woodpecker, 3; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 11; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Southern Downy Woodpecker, 7; Prairie Horned Lark, 55; Blue Jay, 30; Crow, 941; Carolina Chickadee, 56; Tufted Titmouse, 60; Bewick's Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 21; Mockingbird, 5; Robin, 14; Bluebird, 21; Starling, 28; Myrtle Warbler, 27; Meadowlark, 42; Bronzed Grackle, 5; Cardinal, 49; Goldfinch, 29; Purple Finch, 39; Red-eyed Towhee, 37; Slate-colored Junco, 103; Tree Sparrow, 25; White-crowned Sparrow, 16; White-throated Sparrow, 60; Fox Sparrow, 10; Swamp Sparrow, 6; Song Sparrow, 49. Total, 38 species, 1895 individuals. Also found during Christmas week—Mallard, Marsh Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Cedar Waxwing, and Brown Creeper.

RUSSELL STARR.

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Louisville, Ky., and vicinity (Cherokee Park, Cave Hill Cemetery and along Ohio River and surrounding territory from the Falls to Twelve Mile Island. All well within 15 mile diameter circle). Dec. 26. 6:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Pale sun; ground bare; wind, light from N. E.; temp. 33 degrees at start and 43 at end. About 15 miles and return, on foot and in automobile. Observers in three parties.

Double-crested Cormorant, 1; Common Mallard, 4; Black Duck, 25; Canvas-back, 10; Lesser Scaup Duck, 111; American Golden-eye, 2; White-winged Scoter, 1; Ruddy Duck, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 5; Duck Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 6; Killdeer, 2; Herring Gull, 81; Ring-billed Gull, 4; Mourning Dove, 5; Barred Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Flicker, 19; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 13; Red-headed Woodpecker, 32; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 5; Downy Woodpecker, 12; Blue Jay, 38; Crow, 557; Carolina Chickadee, 21; Tufted Titmouse, 58; White-breasted Nuthatch, 6; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Brown Creeper, 6; Winter Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 8; Mockingbird, 18; Robin, 52; Hermit Thrush, 3; Bluebird, 14; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Cedar Waxwing, 5; Starling, 10,000 plus (these roost in the business district of the city); English Sparrow, 100; Meadow Lark, 10; Redwing, 2; Bronzed Grackle, 50; Cardinal, 95; Purple Finch, 8; Goldfinch, 11; White-winged Crossbill, 5; Red-eyed Towhee, 56; Slate-colored Junco, 98; Tree Sparrow, 3; Field Sparrow, 1; White-throated Sparrow, 57; Swamp Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 15. Total, 55 species; about 11,650 individuals. Duck Hawk seen by B. L. Monroe. This bird has been seen a number of times since it arrived here in September. White-winged Scoter seen at about 50 yards to 500 yards, in flight and on water. White wing patches and dark body seen clearly by LaFollette, Monroe and Carpenter. White-winged Crossbills seen at close range by Ganier and Slack. Their crossed bills and white patches on the wing plain. Other species seen in the same territory during the census period—Buffle-head; Hooded Merganser; Turkey Vulture; Black Vulture; Golden Eagle (sharply defined black end of tail and white spots under wings seen by Monroe and Carpenter); Bald Eagle; White-crowned Sparrow and Myrtle Warbler.

MABEL SLACK,
JAMES LaFOLLETTE,
ROBERT MENGEL,
BURT L. MONROE,
JAMES B. YOUNG,
FLOYD CARPENTER,
ALBERT F. GANIER.

Cynthiana, Ky.—(Allen and Lair Farms)—Jan. 2, 9:00 A. M. to 12:00; 1:30 to 4:15 P. M. Clear; wind, southwest, light; temp. 34. Great Blue Heron, 2; Killdeer, 1; Crow, 54; Bronzed Grackle, 1; English Sparrow, 30; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Southern Downy Woodpecker, 3; Carolina Chickadee, 35; Tufted Titmouse, 13; Starling, 60; Mockingbird, 1; Flicker, 1; Bluebird, 2; Goldfinch, 3; Carolina Wren, 5; Cardinal, 8; Slate-colored Junco, 26; Tree Sparrow, 3; Song Sparrow, 7; unidentified Duck, 1. Total, 20 species, 257 individuals.

BIRD WELLS RICE,
W. G. WIGLESWORTH.

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Johns Run, Carter County, Ky.—December 26, 1937, 8:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Clear with sun shining most of the time. Temperature 32 degrees to 38 degrees. About 8 miles on foot in wooded and open field areas. Red-tailed (?) Hawk, 1; Bob-white (two coveys), 19; Crow, 2; Chickadee, 32; Tufted Titmouse, 10; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Flicker, 1; Winter Wren, 2; Hermit Thrush, 2; Bluebird, 6; Goldfinch, 3; Red-eyed Towhee, 6; Slate-colored Junco, 102; Chipping (?) Sparrow, 2; Cardinal, 20; Song Sparrow, 5. Total, 16 species, about 214 individuals.

ERCEL KOZEE.

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1937 CHRISTMAS CENSUS

Summary for the State of Kentucky

Double-crested Cormorant, 1; Great Blue Heron, 2; Mallard, 4; Black Duck, 25; Canvasback, 10; Lesser Scaup Duck, 116; American Golden-eye, 2; Ruddy Duck, 1; White-winged Scoter, 1; Canada Goose, 40; Turkey Vulture, 3; Black Vulture, 10; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Marsh Hawk, 2; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; Red-shouldered Hawk, 5; Sparrow Hawk, 19; Duck Hawk, 1; Bob-white, 85; American Coot, 1; Killdeer, 3; Herring Gull, 81; Ring-billed Gull, 4; Mourning Dove, 57; Barred Owl, 2; Screech Owl, 2; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 13; Downy Woodpecker, 55; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 9; Pileated Woodpecker, 52; Prairie Horned Lark, 193; Red-headed Woodpecker, 65; Flicker, 63; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 52; Blue Jay, 158; Crow, 2592; Carolina Chickadee, 282; Tufted Titmouse, 229; White-breasted Nuthatch, 11; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Brown Creeper, 8; Carolina Wren, 91; Bewick's Wren, 6; Winter Wren, 4; Mockingbird, 88; Hermit Thrush, 9; Robin, 115; Bluebird, 109; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 5; Cedar Waxwing, 138; Starling, 10,844; English Sparrow, 995; Myrtle Warbler, 44; Red-wing, 50; Meadowlark, 102; Bronzed Grackle, 59; Purple Finch, 188; Goldfinch, 131; White-winged Crossbill, 5; Cardinal, 366; Red-eyed Towhee, 177; Slate-colored Junco, 799; White-crowned Sparrow, 67; White-throated Sparrow, 177; Tree Sparrow, 191; Chipping Sparrow, 2; Field Sparrow, 84; Swamp Sparrow, 26; Fox Sparrow, 18; Song Sparrow, 171. Total species, 72; individuals, 19,292.

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CENSUS FROM OUR MICHIGAN MEMBER

McMillan, Luce County, Michigan—Dec. 25. 9:07 A. M. to 11:40 A. M. and 1:23 P. M. to 2:58 P. M. Weather, clear at start, becoming overcast at about 11:00 A. M. and remaining so during most of the remainder of the day. Temperature ranged from 5 degrees to 21 degrees F. Wind, northeast in morning, changing to east in afternoon; light. Snow averaged about one foot deep. Covered four miles on skis. The forenoon being chiefly cut over land and the south, east and north sides of McCormick Lake; lake frozen over for at least one month. In P. M., covered woodland in which there were many large trees and no cutting down in it since before the year 1912, and then the only "very best" trees. Seven power Mirakel glasses used.

Hairy Woodpecker, 2 (one tattooing; the other had just dug out a large white grub from the decayed wood of a beech tree. The grub being frozen, it was placed in a crevice in order to be picked in small pieces); Blue Jay, 2 (at feeding station); Black-capped Chickadee, 7 (some feeding on seeds of ironwood); White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2; English Sparrow, 15; Evening Grosebeak, 3 (feeding on seeds of hard maple); Pine Grosebeak, 32 (feeding on seeds in birch cones); Snow Bunting, 1. Total, 10 species, 79 individuals. Cones on birch and evergreen trees, not plentiful. Beechnut crop rather favorable, but most may be off of trees. Hard maple seeds were plentiful, only scattering trees that any seeds remain.

OSCAR McKINLEY BRYENS.

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INDIANA CENSUS BY K. O. S. MEMBER

Bloomingdale, Ind.—(To Turkey Run State Park and vicinity). December 23. 7:45 A. M. to 3:15 P. M. Sun shining most of time; light northwest wind. 24 Degrees at start; 39 degrees at return. About 9½ miles on foot, 15 miles by automobile.

Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Flicker, 4; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 29; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 7; Prairie Horned Lark, 25; Blue Jay, 18; Crow, 40; Black-capped Chickadee, 1; Tufted Titmouse, 21; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Bluebird, 4; English Sparrow, 50; Cardinal, 13; Goldfinch, 3; Slate colored Junco, 15; Tree Sparrow, 76; Song Sparrow, 25. Total, 20 species, 340 individuals.

DOROTHY M. HOBSON.

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AN UNUSUALLY EARLY RECORD FOR THE SNOWY OWL

In the last issue of the WARBLER I stated the adage, **Seek and ye shall find.** I also declared that while, in the majority of cases we have to search, diligently and patiently, in a bird's most favorable environment, sometimes unusual visitors boldly cross our paths and thrust themselves upon us, so to speak, without our meriting the event. An example of this thesis was never more aptly demonstrated than by what occurred on Saturday, November 6.

On this afternoon, to us a memorable one, Mr. Floyd Carpenter, Miss Evelyn Schneider, Mr. Burt Monroe, and the writer, set out in search of American Pipits. To this end we were riding up the River Road east of Louisville, toward Oldham County, where there was a country Golf Course and many plowed up fields, a location where Pipits had been found in previous years. As we neared the foot of Twelve-Mile Island we noticed a big white hump or spot in the very top of a large sycamore tree, growing on the Kentucky shore. The tree was bare of leaves and its white branches glistened in the sun. Yet, in the extreme top where a branch had evidently been broken off, was this lump, whiter than the limbs of the tree. As we pulled over to the side of the road to investigate, two members of the party simultaneously suggested a Snowy Owl. "Sure, let's make it a Snowy Owl!" cried another. "Say, you fellows, you needn't be kidding, that **is** a Snowy Owl!"

Having thus determined the probability of a great find, we drove up opposite the tree, which was about one hundred yards away. There we carefully trained our glasses and a thirty-power telescope on the bird, comparing it with descriptions in our guides. There was absolutely no question left as to this being a Snowy Owl (Nyctea Nyctea). The dark spots on the head, as well as the horizontal markings on the breast, were clearly visible. The bird was facing us and we had a perfect view of it, as it turned its head around, now to the left and now to the right. This gave us a good profile view of the head and, in the clear sunshine, against a blue sky, every detail was discernible.

As we had cameras with us, pictures were taken with both an Argus Camera, carrying color film, and with an Exacta, using supersensitive panchromatic film. Mr. Carpenter, who took these shots, made them at different distances and finally obtained one directly under the tree in which the owl was perched. After Mr. Carpenter had gotten back to the car, the owl took wing, flying directly over us, its tremendous wings casting a shadow on the ground before us. It flew inland toward the Indian Hills woods, until it was lost to sight, about three quarters of a mile away. Subsequent search failed to locate it, but we had approximately an hour's leisurely view of the owl, from 2:15 to 3:15 P. M.; temperature 61 degrees. Since two of the party happened to be game wardens, conversations for the remainder of the afternoon was all on the fate of the white bird—game season was on and perhaps some gunner would take a pot-shot at this unusual target. This is the sixth record of its occurrence in Kentucky in recent years, but Audubon says of it, "Scarcely is there a winter which does not bring several of these hardy natives of the North to the Falls of the Ohio at Louisville." He then goes on to describe how they seized fish which had been trapped in the 'potholes' or pools of water in the rocks.

But to conclude, and draw the moral to my tale! We then proceeded on our search for Pipits, but not a Pipit did we see, even though the environment and time were perfect for them. But who cared that day about the absence of Pipits, for the afore-mentioned 'unmerited event' had happened. The unusual visitor had thrust itself upon us, and we had gained a life record. A Snowy Owl in Kentucky on a clear, warm, early November day!

LEONARD C. BRECHER, Louisville, Ky.

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[Editor's Note—On the 12th of November, this owl was found on a farm near Avoca, Kentucky. The farmer's wife discovered her cows pushing the lifeless body of the bird around the field. Mr. Al. Mirus, a member of the Beckham Bird Club was consulted, and he mounted this specimen, a female, which was claimed by the farmer's son for the library of Anchorage High School. The owl had not been shot, but its body was badly bruised, whether from striking an auto or from the cow's sport, we will never know. However, it now presents a handsome appearance.]

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FALL MEETING, 1937

The 1937 Fall Meeting of the K. O. S., held at Henderson, on October 22-24, is one that will long remain in the memories of those who were present. By far the largest group ever to attend a fall session assembled for the various meetings. The hospitality of the Henderson members and other citizens, the attractions of interest in the city, the excellence of the programs, and the fellowship and exchange of experiences enjoyed in the associations all conspired toward a highly exceptional meeting.

At the opening session on Friday evening, Dr. Gordon Wilson spoke on "Christmas Bird Sensuses," giving many experiences from the nineteen consecutive censuses in which he had participated. The reasons for these censuses, how to organize them, a resume of the birds seen, and the advantages and pleasures of this form of activity were enthusiasticaly told. It was encouraging to hear that according to Dr. Wilson's observations birds are now seen in considerably larger numbers than when he began, and some species, especially those protected about homes and farms, have shown decided increase.

Mr. Samuel E. Perkins, III, Treasurer of the Wilson Ornithological Club, spoke about "The Pets of Audubon." His gathering together from numerous sources the bits of information and the stories of Audubon's dogs, particularly Zephyr and Dash, his horse Barro, the sparrow hawk Nero, the trumpeter swan, and others proved interesting and entertaining.

At the business session on Saturday morning were discussed many questions relating to the Society, showing a stimulation of interest not hitherto evident. Reports from the three chapters, the C. W. Beckham Bird Club in Louisville, nearly three years old, and the newly formed chapters in Henderson and Madisonville, gave evidence not only of increased membership but of more active participation and more wide-spread activities. At the conclusion of the business meeting Miss Susan S. Towles, of the Henderson Historical Society, spoke on "Audubon in Henderson," and exhibited many of the folio prints and interesting articles from the Audubonian Collection.

Under the leadership of Mr. Virgil King, a trip was made on Saturday afternoon, to the Audubon Memorial Park, a mile north of the city, where high on a hill overlooking a majestic stretch of the Ohio River, in the midst of four hundred acres of rolling land and thick woods, is being erected the Audubon Museum, a gray stone building in the Norman style of architecture. While climbing about the temporary scaffolding, peering into the round tower, the large main gallery, and other rooms, we envisioned the completed edifice with its exhibitions of prints, mounted birds, books and portraits, birds nesting in the masonry, the formal garden laid out with the wheel from Audubon's grist and lumber mill in the center, and the French gate house near by. Leaving the Museum we were taken to another section of the park, where, as we walked along the beautiful woodland paths, observed the view from the lookout tower, and enjoyed the log fire in the rustic shelter house, we pictured to ourselves Audubon himself, in this lovely country, observing and gathering materials for the paintings which brought him fame. On returning to the city, we visited the Public Library, where are many of Audubon's folio prints and other interesting items.

Dinner on Saturday evening proved a memorable occasion, with thirty-three bird enthusiasts present. Each one related briefly an interesting and entertaining experience during the year in connection with bird study. This means of becoming acquainted with each other and the enjoyment of companionship have made these annual informal dinners occasions which we anticipate with rare pleasure. Reluctantly we tore ourselves away to attend the evening session with its group of noted speakers.

Mr. C. E. Dudley, Superintendent of Schools in Henderson, extended a cordial greeting and praised the interests and work of the K. O. S. A large group of members of the Evansville, Indiana, Audubon Society were among the visitors.

Mrs. Fred C. Laskey, well known for her excellent work and integrating of results, spoke on "Bird Banding," giving briefly its origins and history and telling many of her experiences in banding over ten thousand birds (108 species) in a period of six years. Mrs. Laskey stressed the importance of banding in obtaining many kinds of information as well as the pleasure in the work and the privilege of having rare birds close at hand.

Mr. Albert F. Ganier showed many lantern slides of unusual pictures which he had made, including hawks, owls, the Bald Eagle, Mississippi Kite, with their nests, eggs, and localities. His views of Reelfoot Lake, together with the King Rail on its nest, the nest of the Least Tern, American Egrets, Cormorants, Anhingas, and Great Blue Herons found there, were of unusual interest.

Dr. George R. Mayfield, in speaking on "How to Learn the Warblers," mentioned the importance of keen eyes, a good ear, and unlimited patience. He stressed the need of learning individual characteristics, spoke of the thrill of locating by ear what cannot be seen, and described the habits and songs of many of the warblers. We could not help but agree with Dr. Mayfield that the beauty, habits, elusive ways, and the songs of the different species, all recommended these birds to intensive study.

Dr. Gordon Wilson, in concluding the last session of the meeting, expressed the indebtedness of the Society to Mr. King, local chairman, for his capable work in making all arrangements, to Mr. Dudley for his cooperation, to the boy scouts for their helpful services as guides and ushers, and to the newspapers for the articles printed. Every member and visitor felt deepest gratitude to the speakers, especially those who had come from considerable distance to give us the benefit of their years of study and experience.

On Sunday morning, under the leadership of Mr. King, and Mr. R. C. Soaper, a field trip was made to the heronry, fourteen miles west of Henderson. After helping each other through the tangled woods, jotting down the birds we observed along the way, we reached the tall trees laden with nests of herons, egrets, and cormorants. Again we regretted the necessity of returning to town, and a hasty dinner, the bidding of farewells, and departure for various parts of the state marked the end of one of the best attended, most enthusiastic and stimulating meetings ever held.

EVELYN SCHNEIDER, Secretary, Louisville, Ky.

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Some time ago you were informed by the Secretary-Treasurer of the K. O. S. that there would be a delay in this issue of the Kentucky Warbler and that there was a surprise in store for you. We believe that you have already guessed it.

The cover and the change in size of the Warbler, this issue, marks a decided departure in design from the past issues and initiates the style that is to be followed in the future. The problem of working within a limited budget has been an annual one, but the oficers of the Society have seen fit to advance. They believe that a "bigger and better" organ will bring in more paying members and that we can give more for the money than heretofore. Undoubtedly, the change is a big improvement. The cover lends more charm, while the increased size allows for more material.

The cover was designed and executed as a generous contribution to the Kentucky Warbler by Mr. Albert F. Ganier, whose work is already well known to many of our readers through the medium of the Tennessee Ornithological Society and its organ, the "Migrant." He has been one of the guiding hands in our own State Society, and, together with Dr. Gordon Wilson, of Bowling Green, has furnished the inspiration for the progress of the K. O. S. We take this opportunity to thank him for the splendid co-operation he has always given us.

A new cover, a new size, new birds, new members, and a new year—1938 should be the best in our history. Get behind your Society—pay up your dues, boost the K. O. S., contribute to the Warbler, and above all, help increase the membership.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therefore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to EDWARD M. RAY, Secty-treasurer, 2613 Grimstead Drive, Louisville, Ky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in The Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to BURT L. MONROE, Editor, 207 Birchwood, Louisville, Ky.

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Kentucky Warbler
"To sift the sparkling from the dull and the true from the false is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Volume XIV SPRING 1938 No. 2

TWO YEARS OF BIRD BANDING

By DOROTHY MADDEN HOBSON, Louisville, Ky.

February of this year marked the close of my second year of bird-banding. 1,117 individuals representing 49 species have been banded by my sub-station operators and me during this period. Of this number Mrs. Fred Petty banded 170; Mrs. Marshall Mellor, 124; Miss Mabel Slack, 38; Burt Monroe, 64; Dr. Harvey Lovell, 7; and I banded 655. My sister, Miss Martha Jean Madden, of Bloomingdale, Indiana, contributed a total of 59 from that state.

During this time the total recovery records reported by the Bureau of Biological Survey number seventeen, three of which were reported found outside the state. Of these three, one was a Bronzed Grackle banded by Mrs. Petty July 28, 1936, and was found dead March 10, 1937, at Gadsden, Alabama. The other two, which were banded as nestlings by my sister, were a Brown Thrasher, banded June 3, 1936, and found dead November 24, 1936, at Shorter, Alabama, and a Mourning Dove, banded June 8, 1936, and found injured (it later died) February 23, 1937, at Fitzgerald, Georgia. Promiscuous banding of nestlings is discouraged by the Biological Survey, which points out that returns obtained from banded fledglings are so few in number as to be of slight value, and it also points out that the normal mortality of young birds is about 50%. Because of this, few fledglings were banded by us, but an ironical situation was created when our out-of-town recoveries proved to be from nestlings.

There have been a few interesting returns. The male Mockingbird banded November 30, 1936, at the home station, soon after we moved to Audubon Park, continues to make our yard a part of his territory. This year he is mated to a different bird. Brown Thrasher 36-218725, banded July 8, 1936, by Mrs. Mellor, was caught at my station March 17, 1938. Its tail feathers and two toes were missing. It is interesting to note that this bird and a Bronzed Grackle, banded by Mrs. Mellor March 25, 1937, and caught by me June 20, 1937, are the only birds I have caught of hers (she has caught none of mine), in spite of the fact our stations are only a quarter of a mile apart. A Cardinal banded April 23, 1936, by her was not seen again until the same day in the month the following year, when it was taken again. Because of the relatively short time in which we have been banding and because of the change of locations of the home station during this time, it is obvious that the return records are of no

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great importance or interest to anyone except the bander. However, some of the readers may be interestd to know that there have been about 50 returns of the following species: Mockingbird, Tufted Titmouse, Cardinal, Brown Thrasher, Blue Jay, Song Sparrow, Bronzed Grackle, and Robin.

Burt Monroe has been responsible for adding some of the most interesting birds to my list of banded species. A King Rail found in a yard in Crescent Hill, where it apparently had dropped exhausted in migration, was brought to him. After its recovery it was banded and released at the Indian Hill Ponds. To Monroe goes the credit for the immature Red-tailed Hawk, the Black-crowned Night Heron, the Coot, the Swamp Sparrow, and the Bachman's Sparrow. The latter flew into the Stark's Building in downtown Louisville; after much difficulty it was caught and brought to Monroe, who gave it to me to band April 1. This species, which is rarely seen in this locality, was identified by Dr. Arthur Allen of Cornell University, who was in Louisville at the time. One bird Monroe trapped in his yard was not banded but put into a cage, where it is contented and sings sweetly—for it is a Canary.

February 5, 1937, a terrifying sound was heard coming from my back yard. It was the combined screaming of a Sparrow Hawk and a Tufted Titmouse, which were both in a one-celled Potter trap, the Sparrow Hawk having been lured there by the smaller bird. It was difficult to decide which of the two was more frightened at the turn of events.

Warbler banding was again disappointing last fall. Three Maryland Yellow-throats, one Wilson's Warbler, and an Oven-bird comprise the total. An Olive-backed Thrush was lured by the water-drip trap and banded. Mrs. Petty, of Strathmoor, caught the Gray-cheeked Thrush with a pull-string trap. Very early in the fall migrating season a Hooded Warbler was seen to alight on the tread of the water trap, but unfortunately the tread was not set for light-weight birds. In spite of all efforts, there have been several other species of birds nearby that I have failed to get, most noteworthy of which are the Yellow-billed Cuckoo, which successfully reared its young in our elm tree, Goldfinches that fed on the seed of the coreopsis and corn-flowers of my garden, the Fox Sparrow that ate around the traps and alighted on the Government Sparrow trap, the Yellow-breasted Chats and Grasshopper Sparrows that nested nearby my station. I have sight records of 96 species of birds that I have observed in Audubon Park the past year.

During fall migration the White-throated Sparrow is the most common migrant with me. In the fall of 1936, 27 birds of this species were banded at the home station between October 23 and November 5, while in the fall of 1937, 75 were banded between October 9 and October 28. In the spring of 1937, 23 were trapped between Febraury 14 and April 29. To date this spring (April 9) not a White-throat has been seen at the station. Of the 125 individuals that have been handled at the home station over three seasons, not a one has returned. The same is true of the 113 Juncos.

In February, 1937, the weighing of birds handled was begun at the suggestion of Mrs. Margaret Morse Nice, with whom I spent a delightful afternoon at her home in Chicago in December, 1936. The birds are weighed on scales sensitive to one-tenth of a gram. My total weighing records include some 300 weighings of 22 species—a mere beginning. My chief interest along this line is Cardinal weighing.

Perhaps some of the readers will be interested in a record of the species and number of each handled during this two year period; therefore the following is submitted: Black-crowned Night Heron, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 3; King Rail, 1; Coot, 1; Mourning Dove, 11; Screech Owl, 2; Barred Owl, 1; Flicker, 11; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 4; Crested Flycatcher, 9; Phoebe, 2; Barn Swallow, 9; Blue Jay, 35; Black-capped Chickadee, 1; Carolina Chickadee, 9; Tufted Titmouse, 23; House Wren, 16; Bewick's Wren, 3; Carolina Wren, 4; Mockingbird, 17; Catbird, 53; Brown Thrasher, 90; Robin, 71; Wood Thrush, 4; Olive-backed Thrush, 1; Gray-cheeked Thrush, 1; Bluebird, 1; Starling, 82; Black and White Warbler, 1; Oven-bird, 2; Maryland Yellow-throat, 4; Wilson's Warbler, 1; Meadowlark, 6; Redwing, 11; Bronzed Grackle, 184; Cardinal, 120; Red-eyed Towhee, 21; Vesper Sparrow, 2; Slate-colored Junco, 113; Chipping Sparrow, 8; Field Sparrow, 2; White-crowned Sparrow, 10; White-throated Sparrow, 131; Swamp Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 35.

We welcome two new banders from Leitchfield to our ranks—Miss Margaret Hughes and Mr. Moorman, who recently received federal and state permits to band birds in this state. James Young of Louisville, and F. Everett Frei of Glasgow have been doing active work. There are eight others in this state who have bird-banding licenses. May we hear from them?

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A NEW YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON RECORD

On March 27, 1938, two Yellow-crowned Night Herons (Nyctanassa violacea) were recorded at the McElroy farm near Bowling Green, Warren County. The birds were seen about a stretch of swampy woods, by the following observers: Dr. Gordon Wilson, Albert F. Ganier, Burt L. Monroe, Mabel Slack, Russell Starr, Evelyn Schneider, Helen Peil, Audrey Wright, and the writer. This constitutes the second published record of the species for the state, the first being for June 26, 1937, (Wilson, KENTUCKY WARBLER, Summer, 1937), when three individuals were seen at the McElroy farm.

The Herons were first encountered sitting near a nest close to the "Crater," a circular spring in the aforementioned woods. At first they passed as Black-crowned Night Herons (Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli) but were noticed by the writer to be decidely queer when they flew. On closer examination the writer's hasty identification was confirmed, and shortly verified by Starr, Dr. Wilson, and Monroe. Whether they will use the nest mentioned above is problematical at the time of writing, but under the circumstances it seems reasonable that they breed in the immediate vicinity. They quite probably nested there in 1937, but the height of the water at that time, and the similarity of the young juvenile Black-crowns, rendered their discovery impossible. In any event, the breeding record should be established this year.

In the future there is a possibility that the Yellow-crown will be found breeding in Fulton, Ballard, or Henderson Counties, and possibly at the 6-mile Island rookery on the Ohio River, north of Louisville. The Bowling Green record, if established, will be new for the state, and further work doubtless will reveal more concerning the status of this unusual and beautiful wader.

ROBERT MENGEL, Louisville.

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A SPRING OUTING BY K. O. S. PEOPLE

On Saturday and Sunday, March 26 and 27, twenty-one people, largely K. O. S. members, enjoyed an outing at the McElroy and Chaney farms, ten miles south of Bowling Green. On Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning we studied the birds on the McElroy farm; on Sunday afternoon those who did not have to catch trains or drive long distances went into the swampy Chaney Woods and added several new species and many individuals. The people on this outing were as follows: Misses Evelyn Schneider, Amy Deane, Helen Peil, Dorothy Peil, Mabel Slack, and Audrey Wright and Messrs. Burt L. Monroe, Floyd S. Carpenter, and Bobbie Mengel, Louisville; Mr. R. J. Hardesty and Dr. T. Atchison Frazier, Marion; Messrs. A. F. Ganier and Leo Rippy, Jr., Nashville, Tennessee; Professors Hayward Brown, J. R. Whitmer, Charles L. Taylor, and Gordon Wilson of the Western Teachers College, Bowling Green; Mr. Earl Boggs, Letcher County; Mr. Russell Starr, Glasgow; and Messrs. Jo Allen Bryant and Leonard H. Hudson, Bowling Green.

Sixty-seven species of birds were recorded, twenty-one of them water and wading birds: Bluebird, C; Red-winged Blackbird, A; Cardinal, C; Carolina Chickadee, C; Cowbird, C; Crow, FC; Mourning Dove, 10; Mallard, 25; Black Duck, 75; Lesser Scaup, 50; Buffle-head, 1; Hooded Merganser, 2; Green-winged Teal, 10; Blue-winged Teal, 30; Shoveller, 30; Wood Duck, 3; Ring-necked Duck, 10; Coot, 100; Bittern, 2; Great Blue Heron, 6; Yellow-crowned Night Heron, 2; Black-crowned Night Heron, 7; Pied-billed Grebe, 4; Greater Yellowlegs, 10; Lesser Yellowlegs, 20 plus; Killdeer, 2; Pectoral Sandpiper, 9; Wilson's Snipe, 10; Flicker, C; Purple Finch, C; Goldfinch, C; Bronzed Grackle, A; Sparrow Hawk, 3; Cooper's Hawk, 2; Marsh Hawk, 2; Blue Jay, C; Junco, C; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Meadowlark, C; Prairie Horned Lark, C; Mockingbird, 5; Phoebe, 1; Robin, C; Migrant Shrike, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Chipping Sparrow, C; Field Sparrow, C; Grasshopper (?) Sparrow, 2; Savannah Sparrow, 3; Song Sparrow, 2; Swamp Sparrow, C; Vesper Sparrow, 4; White-crowned Sparrow, C; White-throated Sparrow, C; English Sparrow, A; Tree Swallow, 1; Tufted Titmouse, C; Brown Thrasher, C; Towhee C; Starling, A; Myrtle Warbler, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 4; Red-headed Woodpecker, 3; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1; Bewick's Wren, 3; Carolina Wren, 4; Turkey Vulture, 1.

GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green.

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ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK AT LOUISVILLE

While observing wildfowl at the Indian Hills swamp near Louisville on March 13, 1938, Miss Mabel Slack and the writer were fortunate in recording a Rough-legged Hawk (Buteo lagopus s. johannis). The bird was first noted in flight but soon alighted on a nearby tree. When closely approached by auto, it flew and was last seen at a great distance flying toward the Ohio River. The heavy, characteristic flight, large size, and diagnostic white tail-marking of the species were clearly observed. The Rough-leg has been seen near the ponds on several previous occasions by other observers. All have been in the light phase of plumage.

ROBERT MENGEL, Louisville.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS AT LOUISVILLE, KY.

To find a new species of bird for one's life list always makes a red-letter day but to find a new one for the State list as well, must always bring to the finder a real thrill. It was my good fortune to have this experience on November 27, 1937, when I found a flock of five White-winged Crossbills (Loxia leucoptera) at Louisville, Ky. This bird of the Canadian forests is not due to range so far south and even along our northern border its occasional visits in winter are hailed with especial interest.

I had been making one of my usual census lists among the varied growth of shrubs and trees of Cave Hill cemetery when I noticed the little flock alight in the very top of a sweet gum tree and begin gathering seed from the pendant balls after the manner of Goldfinches. At first glance I took them to be the latter birds but this hasty guess gave way to the Purple Finch when a flash of red was seen on the head of one as it reached over with beak and toes to pull up a seed ball. A moment later, however, I saw that the bird had two wide, white wing bars and that the white-tipped tertials made a striking pattern down the back. This at once eliminated the Purple Finch and I knew I had a strange new bird before me. The birds looked stocky in build and their tails were short and notched. As the probability of Crossbills came to my mind, I moved about to get a better view of their bills, as they fed about forty feet above my head. They worked quietly, taking no notice of me.

After careful watching, I saw in profile the distinct curve of the upper mandible down to a fine slender point. The red color (of two), the unique, distinctive bill together with the broad white wing bars made the identification of these birds unmistakable.

Two of the birds answered the description of males, being bright red on the rump, a curious red on the head and down the back where it became suffused with dusky, also reddish on the throat and breast, fading to lighter flanks and sides. The three others, evidently females, were of a more sombre color, a dull olive streaked with dark, more yellowish on the breast and rump. Here again the wide wing-bars were evident as was the convex upper mandible.

I watched for several more minutes their manner of feeding on this new food which had been substituted for the northern spruce cones. With one foot and bill the birds pulled up a sweet gum ball and held it in front of the breast. I could see the silhouette of both the upper and lower mandibles in the ball seemingly pulling it apart enough to thrust the tongue in for the seed. They did not stay with one ball long but climbed around like little restless parrots to others. After about forty-five minutes, there was a note from one followed by the others and the five flew away, softly chirping—"cheep, cheep"—sweet, pleasant, musical notes like I had never heard before but would never forget.

The next day, November 28, I saw the birds again at the same hour in the same place. At that time, Evelyn Schneider and Floyd Carpenter came by and verified the find. Since then the identification has been substantiated by the following students and ornithologists: Burt L. Monroe, Nov. 29, Dec. 5, Dec. 12, Jan. 2; James B. Young, Nov. 29, Jan. 2; Dorothy M. Hobson, Nov. 30;

Robert Mengel, Dec. 17; Albert F. Ganier, Nashville, Tenn., Editor of the "Migrant," Dec. 26; Floyd Carpenter again on Jan. 2; Evelyn Schneider, again on Jan. 22; Leonard Brecher on the same date; and the writer Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Jan. 7, and Jan. 16.

The birds were recorded for the Christmas Census list of the C. W. Beckham Bird Club, taken on December 26. They will be watched as long as they remain and let us hope, they will choose to return so that we may again study them and record them for our 1938 Christmas Census.

January 25, 1938.

MABEL SLACK., Louisville, Ky.

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SUMMER NOTES FROM REELFOOT LAKE

Reelfoot was formed during the great earthquakes of 1812 and for some hours, the Mississippi River flowed upstream to fill it up. This is a historic fact—The Indians have a nice legend about its formation. According to their tale, a great chief had a son with a deformed foot. As the boy grew older he learned to get around on it pretty well but he still limped and the foot was noticeably different from a normal foot. He was called Reelfoot because he reeled when walking. When Reelfoot grew older, he decided to marry and with a few of his friends made a trip to one of the rich and powerful tribes to the South and was received with the proper hospitality by its chief who inquired why he made the trip. Reelfoot told the chief he was seeking a wife and since he had seen his daughter, his trip was over and asked permission to marry her. The chief refused to let his daughter marry Reelfoot on account of his deformity and offers of rich presents had no effect on changing his mind. Reelfoot went home, greatly distressed, and even thought of returning to steal the girl. At last, the Great Spirit spoke to Reelfoot and told him that it was wrong to think of stealing the girl and that if he did that, he would be severely punished. This quieted him down a while but at last Reelfoot wanted the girl so much that in spite of the orders of the Great Spirit, he set out and stole her. She protested that it was wrong and that he would bring disaster on their people but Reelfoot would not listen to her and started home with her. On the way, the Great Spirit saw them and was very angry at them and stamped his foot on the ground so hard that it sank and his servant, the Mississippi, heard him and flowed from both up and down stream into the sunken place, drowned Reelfoot, the girl and many of the people. The Lake is in the flat bottom lands but to the east there are a number of low hills and then a general rise in the elevation of the country. At places, the lake has some stretches of open water but this is unusual. Near the shore there is much tall saw grass and farther out, lilies growing in the water fill the lake for several miles. Here and there a few cypress trees are still growing but in most places they have been reduced to mere stumps. A few are quite high but most average from a foot below the surface to three or four feet above water level and they are close together. The lake was about three and a half feet below usual stage and we saw lots of trees which are normally submerged. At the South end of the lake at a place called Spillway, steel gates have been placed across the outlet in order to control the water level. The Reelfoot Quadrangle map gives a good idea of the shape although the symbols do not distinguish between grasses, lillies and stumps. The lake is about twelve miles long and, in places, three or four miles across. The Mississippi is only a few miles to the west of the lake. Except to the east, the country is very flat and depends on ditches to drain it. Levies have been built to keep the high water from the Mississippi out of it. Our party, including my Mother and Father, Miss Evelyn Schneider and I, arrived at Walnut Log Lodge, August 30, 1936. We immediately made acquaintances with three other guests at the Hotel, principally Wendell Whittemore, who was studying the birds of the region as well as collecting water samples and making weather observations. His companionship was ideal. Shortly after arriving, which was late in the afternoon, we stood out on the lawn in front of the hotel and watched the birds fly over. Chimney Swifts in numbers flew around and finally settled in the hotel chimney for the night. About a dozen American Egrets flew high over us on the way to roost, and we saw a couple of hundred Red-wings heading for the saw grass to roost. In the fall, hundreds of thousands of these birds, as well as Grackles, Starlings, and Robins come in. August 31, Wendell Whittemore (afterwards herein referred to as W. W.) and I made a short trip out into the lake in one of the boats for which this region is famous. They are all of the same pattern, flat bottomed but pointed at both ends and the sides flare out towards the top. They have no seats built in but have low chairs with backs for the passengers and rower to sit on. The oars are short and are fitted on a machine which reverses their motion and allows the rower to pull on the oars but still move in the same way he is facing. Most of the boats are made of cypress but a few are built of sassafras or catalpa. Birds listed on this short trip included Screech Owl; Red-shouldered Hawk; Carolina Wren; Blue Jay; Crow; Summer Tanager; Bluebird; Red-bellied Woodpecker; Downy Woodpecker; Tufted Titmouse; Carolina Chickadee; White-eyed Vireo; Cardinal; Maryland Yellow-throat; Pileated Woodpecker; Red-wing; Wood Ibis; Great Blue Heron; Blue-winged Teal; American Egret; Long-billed Marsh Wren; Barn Swallow; Wood Duck; Goldfinch; Florida Gallinule; Double-crested Cormorant; Solitary Sandpiper; Tree Swallow; Belted Kingfisher; Ruby-throated Hummingbird; Cliff Swallow; Purple Martin; Green Heron; Marsh Hawk and Indigo Bunting; a total of 35 species. Later in the day, a drive around the lake by automobile brought many interesting events. We passed Sling Shot Charlie's. Charlie is called this because of his unusual ability to use a sling shot so well that he goes duck hunting with one. As a stunt, he also can knock a cigarette out of his son's mouth with one. A call at Proctor City for Mr. Lem Deberry was made to get him to lead us to the Big Crane Town. We found him asleep in his yard, but despite the lateness of the hour, he agreed to take us to our destination. We drove about three quarters of a mile along what he said was a road, but it was so thickly grown up that as soon as we could, we got out and left the auto. He led us along an old road bed of an abandoned logging line until we reached Big Ronaldson Slough. It was almost dry and a half mile walk along it was most beautiful. Just above the remains of the old R. R. trestle, over the Slough, our guide pointed to an eagle's nest. It was an immense affair and the only eagle's nest I have ever seen. Lem said that Bald Eagles lived there and had used it for years. He added that they had raised two young this year. He also pointed out some deer tracks, the state having recently liberated some. At times he pointed out a "pocket" which is just an open grassy place in the woods. A number of birds were along its borders but as we had to hurry, we couldn't stop much to look at them. Leaving the Slough, we cut through the woods and after a search came to Big Crane Town. We saw only a few nests in the trees but the ground was covered with many sticks, old nests, blown from the trees. Several places were pretty well strewn with bones. A few vultures were in the vicinity but we saw no herons. Lem informed us that they had nested there in great numbers in the spring but that they had left. We would like to return at the right season. More birds were added to our ever growing lists; Little Blue Heron; Spotted Sandpiper; and a great many Nighthawks being of chief interest. September 1, we spent in walking along the Bayou, listing and observing. That night, rain, rain, rain. Next morning, it was still quite cloudy. The ground didn't appear exceptionally muddy and to my surprise the rain gauge at the Biological Station indicated a fall of 4.07 inches which was almost unbelievable. This was checked and the gauge in the Bayou showed a rise of 4.60 inches. Our trip this day was one of the highlights of our entire visit. Evelyn Schneider, W. W. and I journeyed to Samburg. Fallen branches along the way showed evidence of the windy night before. At Samburg, we hired boats and journeyed out into the lake. Near some live cypress trees, I was surprised to see a long white neck of a bird sticking out of the water. Closer examination showed that it was an American Egret. It was retrieved from the water as were five others. One dead bird we left. The rescued birds were in various stages of exhaustion and one soon died. During the trip by auto back to the Biological Station another also died. Efforts at force-feeding failed, but we were trying hard to save these sorry-looking creatures—exhausted, wet and covered with duck weed. Of the six, one only survived. He flew away carrying a government band. These birds, unquestionably, were victims of the storm the night before. Many evidently perish in this manner. An afternoon trip to Tiptonville on the 3rd of September brought us many land birds and numbers of Egrets at various places, but the prize sight appeared in the late afternoon. I noticed a large flock of birds in the distance, and at first they looked merely like a whisp of smoke. Then I thought perhaps they were ducks. My glasses revealed that they were a smaller number of larger birds and as they came ever closer, I knew them to be Wood Ibis, fifty-three in all. The shape of the birds, the long bill and the black and white pattern of their wings were distinctly seen, first through the 8x binoculars and then with a 30x telescope. It was an interesting sight to see them and the way the shape of the flock changed, a bird first getting ahead of its companions and then dropping back. This continued all the while as the general outline of the flock also changed. The wing motion was likewise fascinating. W. W. saw thirty-seven near the Lodge on the same evening, and he told us that recently he had observed about 200 together. September 4, E. J. S. and I accompanied Mr. Virgil Powers on a boat trip to Cranetown, near Otter Basin. This Cranetown is near the Kentucky-Tennessee state line, and was of particular interest to us. We disembarked at the woods just south of the line and crashed through the underbrush around the cypress to reach the Basin, and in a northwestly direction, until we arrived at our destination. As before, on our previous trip to a cranetown, few nests were remaining in the trees. The ground was literally covered with sticks and, in spots, we found skeletons of birds. One location, between two fallen logs, the ground was nearly entirely covered with bones. Again vultures were in the neighborhood, but no herons. This herony, as far as I could learn, is in Kentucky. September 5, we took to the lake in boats, so early in the morning that the moon was still shining brightly, visiting Upper Blue Basin and returning about noon. We listed 32 species on this trip. Later in the day, we drove around the lake, working as we traveled. About five hundred American Egrets topped this list. I was impressed with the fact that we hadn't seen any robins on this stay at Reelfoot. According to reports, they are rare during the summer, but may be found in winter in great numbers. A few miles out of the lake basin, this bird is a common summer resident. Sept. 6, was our saddest day—we had to leave. It was with the deepest regret that we bid farewell to the Reelfoot country and resolved to return at some other time, perhaps in the fall or early winter. Our list totals 101 species, as follows:

Pied-billed Grebe (Podilymbus podiceps podiceps); Double-crested Cormorant (Phalacrocorax auritus auritus); Ward's Heron (Ardea herodias wardi); American Egret (Casmerodius albus egretta); Little Blue Heron (Florida caerulea carerulea); Eastern Green Heron (Butorides virescens virescens); Black-crowned Night Heron (Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli); Wood Ibis (Mycteria americana); Black Duck (Anas rubripes rubripes); American Pintail (Dafila acuta tzitzihoa); Blue-winged Teal (Querquedula discors); Wood Duck (Aix sponsa); Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura eptentrionalis); Black Vulture (Coragyps atratus atratus); Florida Red-shouldered Hawk (Buteo lineatus alleni); Southern Bald Eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus leucocephalus); Marsh Hawk (Circus hudsonius); Osprey (Pandion haliaetus carolinensis); Eastern Sparrow Hawk (Falco sparverius sparverius); Eastern Bob-white (Colinus virginianus); King Rail (Rallus elegans elegans); Sora Rail (Porzana carolina); Florida Gallinule (Gallinula Chloropus cachinnans); American Coot (Fulica americana americana); Killdeer (Oxyechus vociferus vociferus); American Woodcock (Philohela minor); Spotted Sandpiper (Actitis macularia); Eastern Solitary Sandpiper (Tringa solitaria solitaria); Lesser Yellow-legs (Totanus flavipes); Pectoral Sandpiper (Pisobia melanotos); Forster's Tern (Sterna forsteri); Common Tern (Sterna hirundo hirundo); Least Tern (Sterna antillarum antillarum); Black Tern (Childonias nigra surinamensis); Eastern Mourning Dove (Zenaidura macroura carolinensis); Yellow-billed Cuckoo (Coccyzus americanus americanus); Southern Screech Owl (Otus asio asio); Florida Barred Owl (Strix varia allini); Florida Nighthawk (Chordeiles minor chapmani); Chimney Swift (Chaetura pelagica); Ruby-throated Hummingbird (Archilochus colubris); Eastern Belted Kingfisher (Megaceryle alcyon alcyon); Southern Flicker (Colaptes auratus auratus); Southern Pileated Woodpecker (Ceophloeus pileatus pileatus); Red-bellied Woodpecker (Centurus carolinus); Red-headed Woodpecker (Melanerpes erythrocephalus); Southern Hairy Woodpecker (Dryobates villosus auduboni); Southern Downy Woodpecker(Dryobates pubescens pubescens); Eastern Kingbird (Tyranus tyranus); Northern Crested Flycatcher (Myiarchus crinitus boreus); Acadian Flycatcher (Empidonax virescens); Eastern Wood Pewee (Myiochanes virens); Tree Swallow (Iridoprocne bicolor); Bank Swallow (Riparia riparia riparia); Barn Swallow (Hirundo erythrogaster); Northern Cliff Swallow (Petrochelidon albifrons albifrons); Purple Martin (Progne subis subis); Northern Blue Jay (Cyanocitta cristata cristata); Southern Crow (Corvus brachynchos paulus); Carolina Chickadee (Penthestes carolinensis carolinensis); Tufted Titmouse (Baeolophus bicolor); Carolina Wren (Thryothorus ludovicianus ludovicianus); Prairie Marsh Wren (Telmatodytes palustris dissaeptus); Eastern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos); Wood Thrush (Hylocichla mustelina); Olive-backed Thrush (Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni); Eastern Bluebird (Silia sialis sialis); Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Polioptila caerulea caerulea); Migrant Shrike (Lanius ludicianus migrans); White-eyed Vireo (Vireo griseus griseus); Yellow-throated Vireo (Vireo flavifrons); Red-eyed Vireo (Vireo olivaceus); Eastern Warbling Vireo (Vireo gilvus gilvus); Black and White Warbler (Mniotilta varia); Prothonotary Warbler (Protonotaria citrea); Blue-winged Warbler (Vermivora pinus); Nashville Warbler (Vermivora ruficapilla ruficapilla); Northern Parula Warbler (Compsothylypis americana pusilla); Eastern Yellow Warbler (Dendroica aestiva aestiva); Magnolia Warbler (Dendroica magnolia); Black-throated Green Warbler (Dendroica virens virens); Cerulean Warbler (Dendroica cerulea); Blackburnian Warbler (Dendroica fusca); Sycamore Warbler (Dendroica dominica albilora); Chestnut-sided Warbler (Dendorica pensylvanica); Northern Pine Warbler (Dendroica pinus pinus); Louisiana Water Thrush (Seiurus motacilla); Kentucky Warbler (Oporornis formosus); Mourning Warbler (Oporornis philadelphia); Maryland Yellow-throat (Geothlypsis trichas trichas); Yellow-breasted Chat (Icteria virens virens); Hooded Warbler (Wilsonia citrina); Wilson's Warbler (Wilsonia pusilla pusilla); American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla); Southern Meadowlark (Sturnella magna phoeniceus); Eastern Red-wing (Agelaius phoeniceus phoeniceus); Bronzed Grackle (Quiscalus quiscula aeneus); Summer Tanager (Piranga rubra rubra); Eastern Cardinal (Richmondena cardinalis cardinalis); Indigo Bunting (Passerina cyanea); Eastern Goldfinch (Spinus tristis tristis); Eastern Field Sparrow (Spizella pusilla pusilla).

FLOYD S. CARPENTER, Louisville, Ky.

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"VOICES OF VANISHING BIRDS"

PRESENTED AT LOUISVILLE BY DR. ARTHUR A. ALLEN

The sound and photographic story of a 15,000 mile expedition by a noted ornithologist was presented to over 800 persons the night of April 1st, at the Woman's Club Auditorium in Louisville. Dr. Arthur A. Allen, professor of ornithology at Cornell University, gave the lecture which was accompanied by still color plates, movies and sound recordings to an audience which was both surprised and pleased by his method of presentation and which received the entertainment with more enthusiasm than ever before has been shown such a lecture in Louisville.

The pictures themselves are remarkable in their content and Dr. Allen's manner of explaining them provided an enjoyable evening.

Albert Brand, co-worker of Dr. Allen at Cornell, financed the expedition to record the voices of vanishing bird species and with his help almost every color plate and every foot of film is a masterpiece in subject material or action photography.

The universal appeal of the lecture was indicated by the make-up of the audience. Men, women, boys and girls seemed equally represented. Many visiting ornithologists from Nashville, Tenn., Cynthiana, Carrollton and Leitchfield, Ky., and cities in Southern Indiana attended.

The lecture was sponsored by the C. W. Beckham Bird Club, the Louisville Chapter of the Kentucky Ornithological Society and various civic organizations of Louisville.—K. T.

K. O. S. SPRING MEETING

The regular Spring Meeting of the K. O. S. was held, as usual, in Louisville, Ky., on Thursday, April 14th, and Friday, April 15th. The sessions were held in the Red Room of the Seelbach Hotel in conjunction with the Kentucky Educational Association meetings.

On Thursday, the meeting was formally called to order by President Brasher C. Bacon at 2:30 o'clock. After his welcoming address, he introduced the first speaker, Floyd S. Carpenter of Louisville, who had as his title "Observations of the American Egret in Jefferson County." Mr. Carpenter has paid particular attention to the appearance of this bird at Louisville and has been very fortunate in witnessing many of its interesting traits. His crowning achievement come when he witnessed the start of a flock of Egrets on the return trip southward.

Brasher C. Bacon, of Madisonville, Ky., in his talk on "Bird Protection," outlined the work being done in Western Kentucky through the establishment of many sanctuaries. He also told of the recent organization of the Western Kentucky Conservation Association, which will sponsor the work in that region.

Moving pictures showing phases of "Bird Banding" were presented by Dr. L. Y. Lancaster, of Bowling Green, Ky. Many bird banders from Louisville as well as several from Leitchfield and neighboring towns were in the audience and this particular part of the program was of especial interest to them. The films, sent here from Washington, D. C., were exceptionally well chosen for Kentuckians as it showed birds well-known in this State.

At 2 o'clock on Friday, a short business session opened the activities. Immediately following this session, the general program began. An illustrated presentation, "Study of Bird Nests," was given by the pupils of Grades 5A and 6B, of the Benjamin Franklin School, Louisville, under the able direction of Miss Marie Pieper. Pupils of Grades 4A and 5B, of the Hazelwood School, Louisville, under the direction of Miss Mattie Pirtle, exhibited bird houses which they had constructed. Miss Emilie Yunker, Supervisor of Nature Studies in the Louisville Schools, distributed bird sticks made by pupils.

"Records of Some Birds Not Often Seen in Central Kentucky" gave Leonard C. Brecher, Louisville, the opportunity to tell those present of the many rare and interesting birds he has been able to observe near his home. He told, in a delightful and instructive manner, of the appearance of many such species as the Western Willett, Long-billed Dowitcher, Snowy Egret, White-winged Crossbill, Snowy Owl and others not often observed.

Without Dr. Gordon Wilson, founder of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, no meeting would be a success. He chose as his subject, "Some Intangibles of Bird Study," a jewel of a subject and presented in the inimitable fashion which he alone can impart to an attentive audience. After his talk, many realized for the very first time just what association, not only with the birds but with fellow ornithologists, really means.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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(Includes membership to state organization and local chapters)

Karl Maslowski, skilled photographer and lecturer from Cincinnati, Ohio, presented his color films and slides "Animal Portraits" and "Birds of Reelfoot Lake." No more beautiful pictures have ever been taken in this country than those which he presented and his technique is to be highly congratulated. His illustrated talk which actually carried the audience with him as he made his journeys through the woodlands, fields and swamps, was a fitting conclusion to another successful and enjoyable K. O. S. meeting.—B. L. M.

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The Fall Meeting of the K. O. S. will be held in Cynthiana, Kentucky, during the month of October. The dates have not as yet been set but will appear in the Summer issue of the Kentucky Warbler.

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The Spring Field Day of the C. W. Beckham Bird Club, Louisville Chapter of the K. O. S., has been set for Sunday, May 8, at Otter Creek. The motor caravan will leave Louisville early in the morning, and transportation will be furnished out of town guests. For further information, write Miss Evelyn Schneider, 2207 Alta Ave., Louisville, Ky.

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Mr. Albert F. Ganier has announced that the Nashville Chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society will hold its annual spring field day Sunday, May 15. All members of the K. O. S. are cordially invited. Particulars may be secured by writing him at 2507 Ashwood Ave., Nashville, Tenn.

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The **KENTUCKY WARBLER** takes this opportunity of congratulating the new Editor of the **MIGRANT**, Mr. Ben Coffey, of Memphis, Tenn., on his first issue. It is a splendid issue and keeps step with the pace set by its former editor, Mr. Albert F. Ganier. May it continue to hold its place as the leading state ornihological journal.

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THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therefore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to EDWARD M. RAY, Secty-treasurer, 2613 Grimstead Drive, Louisville, Ky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in The Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to BURT L. MONROE, Editor, 207 Birchwood, Louisville, Ky.

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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull and the true

from the false is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Volume XIV SUMMER 1938 No. 3

THE WATERFOWL OF KENTUCKY

By ROBERT M. MENGEL

The state of Kentucky has been singularly blessed with many hundreds of miles of waterways. A large segment of the Ohio River serves as the northern boundary; the Mississippi touches the western extremity; the Kentucky, Tennesee, Green, and other smaller rivers flow throughout the state; and over 300 square miles of lake surface are included. It is natural, with so much attractive water, that numbers of migrating waterfowl stop to rest; and many aquatic species remain to breed in the marshes which border the streams. Somehow there is a unique quality about all the wildfowl, for they possess a charm equalled by few other birds What is more thrilling or inspiring than a high-flying "V" of Geese, or the whistling flight of the Golden-eye? With the purpose, therefore, of discussing the members of this fascinating group which occur within our boundaries, this paper is written.

One Swan, three Geese, and twenty-four Ducks are attributed to the state in recent years, and perhaps five more are hypothetical, or occurred formerly. Of the latter, the Trumpeter Swan is a good example. According to the accounts of Audubon, it occurred frequently, and there is no logical reason for doubting him. The present day bird student has indeed just cause for envying Audubon. To read his glowing descriptions of the clouds of wildfowl which darkened Kentucky's skies; of mile-long wedges of Geese clamoring above her streams; and of Swans by the hundred; is to set the imagination aflame. Despite the passage of more than a hundred years, however, we are yet far from losing all of this priceless heritage; for the Ducks and Geese, fewer to be sure, nevertheless still bob upon our waters and circle overhead.

It is fitting that those species which breed within our boundaries be entitled to first consideration. Only three species have actually been found breeding so far. Along many woodland streams in summer, we find the colorful Wood Duck occupied by family cares. It breeds even in Jefferson County, within a few miles of Louisville. The Mallard is known to breed in Ballard, Hopkins, and Henderson Counties, and there are questionable records for Jefferson and Oldham Counties. The third species is the Blue-winged Teal which has been recorded nesting on several occasions. All of these probably breed more extensively than thought at present, and should be looked for. Another breeding possibility is the Shoveller.

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With the arrival of September, the great southward migration begins. First comes an influx of Teal and a few female Pintails. Before the month has gone, the first wave of Scaups is in evidence; and they are thick on the Ohio by October. In the first, crisp days of the latter month, the action quickens; for "Gray" and "Black" Mallards; Pintails and Ruddies, have joined the parade. With November come the Golden-eyes, the Buffleheads, the Canvasbacks; and then the first Mergansers indicate that winter is near.

The week of October 10, 1937, was unique in the abnormal flight of Geese which it brought. Near Louisville, on the 13th, upwards of 1500 Blue Geese, with a few Lesser Snow Geese and two Whistling Swans, were observed passing in scattered flocks.

If one is at a suitable place along the Ohio River on a cold January day, some of the less common winter Ducks may be seen. The sharp, cold wind lashes the muddy water into white-caps. Soon fleeting specks appear, flying just above the surface. Here they come! With swift, cutting wing-strokes, three stream-lined Old-squaws shoot by our place of concealment. While we were watching them other Ducks have drifted into view, close inshore. There are three American Merganser drakes, handsome in their glossy black and white plumage. The chunky Golden-eye with them appears tiny by comparison. Still more species are seen in flight: Hooded Mergansers, the "little hairy-head" of the hunter; a pair of White-winged Scoters; and the ever-present Lesser Scaup, or "Bluebill."

February has passed when, without warning, the great spring flight begins. From early March to mid-April the Ducks are evident in numbers. Pintails, Shovellers, Baldpates, and the rarer Gadwall, flock on our rivers and ponds, while Mallards and Black Ducks grow fat in the corn-fields. At this season there are Ducks to be found on practically every suitable pond, in contrast to their behavior during the fall hunting season which they studiously avoided these for obvious reasons. By April the cold weather ducks have left, except for a few stragglers and non-breeders. From the sky comes the honking cry of the Canada Goose, and at times we see strings of these long-necked birds resting quietly in mid-river. Truly this period is enchanting; and it is all too soon that the Red-wing, piping to his mate, announces that the host of wildfowl has gone once more.

No paper on Kentucky's water birds would be complete without mention of the renowned McElroy Farm near Bowling Green. Rising each spring from a sink-hole to flood the surrounding corn-fields, is a miraculous wet weather lake. This comparatively small body of water has produced such finds as Blue Geese, and unusual numbers of Redhead Ducks, not to mention the many additional species which stop there. Other Warren County claims to distinction are records for the Surf and American Scoters, both of which are extremely rare in the central United States.

With the work that is now being done in re-creating marshes, and making safe breeding grounds, the wildfowl migrations of the future should prove even more interesting than at present. Obviously such steps are out of our range, but by giving the migrants all the protection within the law when they are with us, we can aid in decreasing the diminution of their numbers.

Following is a brief annotated list of the species of Swans, Geese, and Ducks, which have been recorded in Kentucky in recent years. It is hoped that this will be ofsomevalue as collective summary of those species.

Whistling Swan (**Cygnus columbianus**) Rare Migrant, two recent Louisville records.

Canada Goose (**Branta c. canadensis**) Common migrant.

Lesser Snow Goose (**Chen h. hyperborea**) Uncommon migrant in the western part of the state.

Blue Goose (**Chen caerulescens**) Tolerably common migrant in western Kentucky.

Mallard (**Anas platyrhynchos**) Migrant, winter resident, rare breeder.

Red-legged Black Duck (**Anas r. rubripes**) Migrant, winter resident.

Gadwall (**Chaulelasmus streperus**) Rather uncommon migrant.

Baldpate (**Mareca americana**) Fairly common migrant.

Pintail (**Dafila acuta tzitzihoa**) Common migrant, rare winter resident.

Green-winged Teal (**Nettion carolinense**) Tolerably common migrant.

Blue-winged Teal (**Querquedula discors**) Common migrant, rare summer resident.

Shoveller (**Spatula clypeata**) Common migrant.

Wood Duck (**Aix sponsa**) Tolerably common summer resident.

Redhead (**Nyroca americana**) Increasingly rare migrant.

Ring-necked Duck (**Nyroca collaris**) Common migrant, rare winter resident.

Canvasback (**Nyroca valisineria**) Migrant, winter resident.

Greater Scaup (**Nyroca marila**) Rare migrant and winter resident in company with the Lesser. Doubtless more common than generally supposed.

Lesser Scaup (**Nyroca affinis**) Common migrant, winter resident.

Golden-eye (**Glouconetta clangula americana**) Common winter resident.

Buffle-head (**Charitonetta albeola**) Not uncommon winter resident.

Old-squaw (**Clangula hyemalis**) Uncommon winter resident.

American Scoter (**Oidemia americana**) Very rare winter resident, a Warren County record.

White-winged Scoter (**Melanitta deglandi**) Uncommon winter resident.

Surf Scoter (**Melanitta perspicillata**) Very rare winter visitant, birds reported killed by hunters near Louisville; a Warren County record.

Ruddy Duck (**Erismatura jamaicensis rubida**) Tolerably common migrant.

Hooded Merganser (**Lophodytes cucullatus**) Winter resident.

American Merganser (**Mergus merganser americanus**) Winter resident.

Red-breasted Merganser (**Mergus serrator**) Migrant, winter resident.

Hypothetical List

White-fronted Goose **(Anser albifrons)** Probably a very rare migrant in western Kentucky.

Black Duck **(Anas rubripes tristis)** Doubtless both subspecies occur, but r. rubripes is more common. Here is a field where collecting is needed.

Eider **(Species?)** Eiders have occured in Ohio and winter on the Great Lakes. Old and trustworthy duck hunters swear to have seen them on the Ohio. They should be watched for in very cold winters. If any, the King and American species would be most probable.

Louisville, Kentucky, June 10, 1938.

* * * * * * * *

A CASTLE HAS BEEN BUILT

By ALLAN M. TROUT

(Reprinted Through the Courtesy of the Courier-Journal)

A castle has just been built at Henderson. It's so magnificient the good men and women who dreamed it can hardly realize their dreams have been transformed into brick and stone and great wooden beams.

It has been named the Audubon Museum. It is a repository of material items that have been prepared from the life and activities of John James Audubon, world-renowned naturalist who lived and worked at Henderson when the town was a cluster of log huts safe above flood waters of the Ohio River. It is situated in a tract of 480 acres of rugged timberland. The tract is called the Audubon State Park.

It may be called by some other name in distant days; all that now remains of John James Audubon's belongings may have rotted into dust, but unless an enemy bomber drops an infernal vial of destruction on it, the castle will be there still.

The Audubon Museum will be opened to the public some time in July. It is not quite completed. Some of the terraces haven't been laid, some of the steps haven't been made, and some of the floors haven't been sanded and stained.

Only the walls at the guest house have been raised, and the formal garden yet is to be laid out and planted.

A guest house and formal garden? To be sure. They are units of the Audubon Museum. The castle has been constructed on three levels, and the guest house and the formal garden are integral parts of the whole undertaking.

To reach the Audubon State Park, the visitor drives north from Henderson on U. S. 41, as if he were going on over the river to Evansville, Ind. He turns right into a shady lane two miles from the city. For all the visitor knows now, he is taking a rustic road that leads merely into a picturesque tract of timber.

You round a curve, and your eyes are drawn quickly to the left. Your heart misses a beat at the unxepected scene before you. If you obey your first impulse, you will stop your automobile on the spot and take a long, lingering look.

High on the wooded hill at the right of your vista is the massive museum of Provincial French architecture. It is made mostly of native stone. A huge round tower, stone two stories high and brick one story, dominates the structure. The tower is slitted with narrow windows, irregularly placed. The brick super-structure is pocked with square niches to simulate portholes for defense. The tower is covered with a gray-domed roof that tapers high up to a sharp point, and the point is surmounted with an ornament of delicately wrought iron.

You catch glimpses of turreted roofs over rooms that extend from the main structure at odd angles. You see the tops of two enormous stone chimneys. You see covered terraces, balustrades of gray stone ornamented with red bricks.

Your eyes drop a level. The rectangular area 100 feet wide by 200 feet long you see is the formal garden, as level as a plane. It's to be landscaped and planted, probably all in roses. A huge concrete retaining wall bounds it on the back, a wall of stone in front. If you were standing on the main terrace of the museum, the formal garden would be directly in front and below you.

An enoromous stairway of stone and brick connects the formal garden with the lowest level. On this level, below the fatherest end of the garden from the museum, stands the guest house. Chances are, if you stopped your automobile it would be standing in front of the guest house. This structure, too, is to be built of stone and brick in architecture harmonizing with the museum on the hill above.

Reverse the picture, and start from the lowest level. You have left your automobile and are strolling up. You pause at the guest house for refreshments, if you are thirsty and hungry; or for a bit of rest, if you are tired. Then you start out on a walk of irregularly laid and cemented stones. You turn sharp to the left and thence up the great stairway to the formal garden. You have entered the garden at its midpoint. A few steps ahead, and you are in the center of its delights. Below you, at the far end of the garden, are ridges of timberland that roll downward to flatlands on the west side of U. S. 41. To the north are still other timbered ridges that make the green bluffs of the Ohio. And to the east of you is the Audubon Museum.

There are five spacious galleries inside the museum, four on the first floor, and the fifth on the second floor. Already the abundance of material to be uncrated and displayed is a matter of worry to Miss Virginia Lockett, curator, and Miss Nell Dishman, her assistant.

The material includes forty-six original nature and bird paintings by Audubon and his sons, Victor Gifford Audubon and John Woodhouse Audubon; from twenty to thirty water colors by Audubon's granddaughter, thereby rounding out three generations of Audubon genius. There are books from Audubon's personal library; the chair in which he sat to paint; his portrait of Daniel Boone; his unfinished portrait of Mrs. Audubon; his silverware and silversmith's receipt for it from England; his watch, his turkey seal, and a lot of hair jewelry of the era, of which Audubon himself was an accomplished manufacturer. There is a set of Wilson's Ornithology, with Audubon's notations throughout, and numerous valuable works by contemporaries of Audubon.

There is a huge recessed log fireplace in the main gallery. The curator's office is in a room in the tower. In addition to the five galleries, there is storage space for excess material and exhibits to be shown only in special displays. Eventually, the museum will represent under one roof just about all the objects from John James Audubon's life that have been preserved.

While the museum adds spectacular interest to the park of 480 acres, this rolling tract of virgin and cutover timber was an attraction in its own right before the museum took shape. It long has attracted throngs of visitors, not only individuals, but organizaions such as garden clubs, Boy and Girl Scouts, 4-H Clubs, luncheon clubs, historical societies and school groups.

They have come and are coming in ever-increasing numbers to study the botanical wonders in this treasure house of nature.

For example, in two weeks 1,068 automobiles visited the park, 767 from Kentucky and 301 out of the State. These motors brought in 4,014 visitors. Of these, 1,288 brought picnic lunches; 1,601 visited the sixty-five foot observation tower, and 502 hiked along the trails.

There have been catalogued fifty-one varieties of trees, thirteen of shrubs and seven of vines.

Custodian and master of this hoard of Nature's treasure is William H. Stites, of whom it truly can be said: "He is happy in his work."

For forty years a banker in Henderson, Mr. Stites now stands in the full glory of a lifelong study of agriculture and horticulture.

The park is replete with the traditional conveniences of trails, bridle paths, shelter houses and picnic grounds. There is the Wildlife Lake of five and half acres, dedicated to the sole purpose of giving a safe haven to waterfowl and fish. Already, two adult grebes and their family of young have moved onto the lake.

To be built immediately is Recreation Lake of sixteen acres, for boating, swimming and fishing. The shore is to be lined with guest cabins and a community house, the latter for convenience of clubs and organizations wanting a convention hall.

This majestic shrine to the memory of John James Audubon was not conceived overnight, because Henderson has been honoring Audubon so long it has become a tradition there. The Mother Audubon Society was formed there in 1898. In 1915, the site of the naturalist's mill on the bank of the Ohio was converted into a park and named in his honor. The stones in the gateway were taken from the old mill itself.

Efforts to erect an Audubon museum in the mill park in 1930 got as far as committee indorsement of a $100,000 Congressional appropriation. Various interests converged in 1936, however, to insure success of the present undertaking. These agencies included the W. P. A., the Department of Interior, the C. C. C. and the State Division of Parks.

Susan S. Towles, historian and descendant of the pioneers who founded Henderson, wrote the simple words below about the Audubon State Park. They tell, best of all, the spirit that makes the park something more than just another picnic ground.

"This land," she wrote, "is rich in stories of John James Audubon. Here he hunted and made bird studies; here in 1814 he carved his name in delicate letters on a great beech; from this woods, tradition says, he cut the timber to build the 'infernal mill' that made him bankrupt, for he loved it far less than the woods and the birds.

"Here, he dreamed of giving to the world all the birds of America. In this woodland, Daniel Boone is said to have been captured by the Indians; here is the 'lost silver mine' from which coins were made by the early settlers.

"All these traditions, with the tree carving of the Turtle Indians, and the strange inscriptions made by a returned Confederate soldier spending the night in Beech Grove, unable to reach his enemy-guarded home, now located by a lonesome pine—these things give to the land an air of mystery and interest.

"The entire tract is a part of the historical land grant of 1778 from Virginia to the Transylvania Company of 200,000 acres on which is founded the city of Henderson. Surely this wooded land, a relic of 'the beautiful, the darling forests of Kentucky,' is the fittest shrine for him who said, 'The highest title I desire is that of the American Woodsman.'

"And just within the forest stands the gray stone building, the only one in the world devoted to the memory of Audubon, designed to become the national shrine of him who, though a foreigner, left the country the rich heritage of his fame. 'America, my country,' was inscribed on his gun."

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LEAST TERN BREEDING IN FULTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY

In company with Mr. Woodrow Goodpaster and Peter Koch, both of Cincinnati, the writer spent the period of June 6th to 18th, 1937 at Reelfoot Lake studying and photographing birds. While there we frequently encountered Least Terns (**Sterna a. antillarum**) which flew overhead or rested on partly submerged logs.

On June 13th after half a day's search on an extensive sandbar along the Mississippi River in Fulton County, Kentucky we discovered a nest of two eggs of this species. The nest was a rather deep cup-shaped scrape. While examining the nest a pair of terns flew overhead and yipped excitedly. Their scolding attracted several other pairs before we departed.

Returning to the nest three days later we found the set still with only two eggs. Apparently the clutch was complete for the eggs were being incubated. Observing the nest from a blind which we had erected six feet away we saw that both parent terns shared in the duty of incubation. Though we have no notes to refer to it seems as though the two birds changed places on the nest at least three times during the morning we watched it. The tern which had just been relieved would at once fly out over the Mississippi and begin dipping for fish.

After photographing the nest with both a motion picture and a still camera we collected the eggs. On blowing them we learned that incubation was far advanced since we had to rot the embryos out of the shells to get them clean. The eggs are now in the collection of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History, and on the authority of Mr. Burt L. Monroe of Louisville, represent the first actual nesting record of this species for the state of Kentucky.

—KARL MASLOWSKI, 950 Glenwood Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio.

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NOTES IN KENTUCKY

There are a few records in my 1937 notes that might be of interest to the readers of "The Kentucky Warbler." These notes are the highlights of sidelights of hurried trips over the week-end. Some incidents are not unusual except for the particular locality.

I quote from my notes of January 2, "Trip from Lewisburg, Ky. to Knoxville, Tenn., by way of Franklin, Ky. to Gallatin, Tenn.—Five Shrike in the seven miles between Russellville and Corinth (State route 100, Ky.) and one Shrike just out of Corinth towards

Franklin. Also on that stretch from Russellville to Franklin we saw about 2,000 Crows (700 by partial count as a basis for the estimate). They were in the wheat fields, meadows, barnyards, wood—in fact everywhere you looked you could see one or more Crows. All birds were more abundant on this route than on the main road, probably because of more bushes, briers, weeds, etc. along the fence rows and small streams."

A morning walk from 4:30 to 9 on June 7 gave me a list of 61 species near Hopkinsville. This is the locality covered by the censuses that have appeared in the earlier issues of the "Warbler." Of this list one record is of interest to me—a Lincoln Sparrow. The bird was first seen on June 5, and tentatively identified as a Song Sparrow. Since this to me was an unusual find for early June, I secured my field glasses and went to investigate. After about thirty minutes of chasing I had the opportunity of observing in detail the distinctive buffy band across the breast. The sparrow sat on a Persimmon sprout, four feet from the ground. With the sun to my back and the bird facing me I compared the markings with the picture and description given in Peterson. Since the Song and Swamp Sparrows do not nest in Christian County (to my knowledge) and since the Lincoln is usually confused with the immature of these two species, I feel this a positive record of a late migrant bird. This bird was seen on June 5, 6, and 7, within one hundred yards of the house. In fact the shrubbery in the corners of the flower garden was its favorite temporary habitat.

The Purple Martin furnishes the last incident to be recorded. On August 7, we were driving north and were some ten miles beyond Corbin, Ky., when small scattered groups of Purple Martin were noticed flying in the territory over and adjacent to the highway. I noted the speedometer mileage in order to orient the place with the next town. Fariston was the place and only one-quarter of a mile away. However, instead of passing thru the assembly of birds we were seeing more and more as we traveled along. We reduced speed to 15 or 20 miles per hour and began a partial count and estimate of numbers. The total went from 100 to 300 to 800 until we neared the entrance to Levi Jackson State Park (about four or five miles north of Fariston) where we found the air alive with Martins. Furthermore, a three-wire power line for two sections (or the distance between three poles) was the perching place for hundreds and hundreds of additional birds. They came and went by the dozens but the wires were always black and sagging under the load. East of the highway on a two wire power line the birds were perching in groups of 40 to 150 (actual rapid counts). From these counts we estimated 2,000 birds on the wires within binocular range, 500 in the air within sight, and an additional 500 to 800 from the Park to one quarter mile South of Fariston. We believe an estimate of 3,300 is conservative. To the best of our knowledge no Starling or Swallows were present in this flock.

The next day on the return trip we began to look for the Martins at Mt. Vernon. From there to as far South as Williamsburg (U. S. route 25) we saw only three Purple Martins; they were perched at a box in East Bernstadt.

—W. M. WALKER, Knoxville, Tenn.

November, 1937.

PIGEON HAWK AT HENDERSON

About five miles south of Henderson, Kentucky, during September of 1937, a fierce little hawk made a desperate effort to obtain a catch. The distress calls of an old hen to her chicks assured her owner that serious danger lurked near by. The alarmed farmer with gun in hand found a pair of fearless little hawks perched in a small tree in his back yard.

One shot netted one hawk and a second could easily have killed its mate. The farmer, however, desiring only the safety of his poultry did not try to kill the other bird. He knew that sparrow hawks are ordinarily beneficial and thought the one he had killed was merely a reprobate of this species. The mate which was spared was seen several times during the next few days, but after the first impetuous attack became quite wary.

Eat but do not be eaten is probably Nature's first law. The quest of food brought death to this killer. As I look at this specimen I like to wonder how many creatures it had killed before its turn came. The temerity of this bird was responsible for its life of plenty (it was very fat) and also its untimely death.

The farmer who shot this hawk is a neighbor of mine and knew that I had studied under Dr. A. A. Allen at Cornell University during the summer, so he brought me his kill thinking I would like to make a study skin of it.

I was amazed to learn that I had a Pigeon Hawk and that this is very likely the first authentic record of this species being taken in Kentucky. I was further amazed to note that there are five dark bands and six light ones across the tail of this bird which indicates that it may be **Falco columbarius richardsoni** rather than **Falco c. columbarius.** As this would be considerably out of the range of the former, it would be well to have the skin identified by Dr. H. C. Oberholser, of the U. S. Biological Survey.

VIRGIL D. KING, Henderson, Ky.

April 17, 1938.

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EARLY NESTING NOTES FROM MARION

Early in March, I noticed a pair of Bewick's Wrens (Thryomanes b. bewicki) about my place that seemed to be hunting a nesting place. I at once took my gourd, which has been the home of wrens for many years, hung it in a small mulberry tree in the garden where the wrens found it without delay. They immediately began preparations for housekeeping and on the fifteenth of March deposited the first egg. On the twenty-second, they began incubating and were feeding six small wrens by middle April.

On April 11th, as I was driving along the highway near Mexico, Ky., I saw some birds in the road. I slowed the car and to my surprise, I discovered an adult female Woodcock (Philohela minor) on the roadside with four young ones. I stopped my car as soon as possible and walked to the birds. The adult took flight but did not go more than fifty feet across the road. The young were possibly four or five days old and seemed to have no fear of me. I picked them up and examined them at my leisure, liberating them later at a spot near where the parent bird was last seen. This is, to my knowledge, one of the earliest known Kentucky records for young Woodcock.

—DR. T. ATCHISON FRAZER, Marion, Ky.

April, 1938.

NOTES ON SOME BREEDING BIRDS OF CARTER COUNTY

In view of the fact that such a few papers have been written on the bird life of this section, I am hopeful that this article will help fill in the gap for Eastern Kentucky records. I have not as yet had ample opportunity to visit all sections of my county as I have planned. Nor have I been able to enlist the aid of any other bird student in this region to help me carry on the work. These two facts coupled with my comparative newness at this sort of work makes the notes incomplete. However, from time to time I shall augment this paper as facts about the breeding status of the birds are unfolded. Several birds breeding here have been purposely left off the list until more data is secured. They will be appended hereto in later issues of the Kentucky Warbler.

The country in Carter County is composed of low hills with principally narrow but occasionally wide valleys. Very few of the hills can be called rough. Most of them are wooded; yet quite a few open field areas exist.

Most of these notes were gathered during my observations of this spring and early summer, beginning immediately after the spring migration had ended.

The one appalling result of my observations over the last few years is the rapid decrease in the number of hawks. The word "scarce" will apply to all hawks that inhabit this county. Due to ruthless persecution, they have decreased alramingly during the last decade. Of the Order Falconiformes, the first bird under observation is (1) Turkey Vulture, now rather uncommon though common a few years ago. (2) Red-tailed Hawk, (3) Cooper's Hawk, (4) Sharp-shinned Hawk, (5) Sparrow Hawk and (6) Red-shouldered Hawk, all are scarce. I saw only one pair of the Red-tailed and only one Red-shouldered Hawk thus far this year. The smaller ones are a bit more numerous.

(7) Bob-white is a common bird with us but his cousin, (8) Ruffed Grouse is, to say the least, uncommon. I hope to have further notes regarding the latter bird later. The shore-bird family is represented by the common (9) Killdeer and the (10) Spotted Sandpiper which is just fairly common. (11) Mourning Doves are seen in very substantial numbers and (12) Yellow-billed Cuckoos are likewise common.

The (13) Screech Owl is the most abundant here of the owl family; yet the (14) Great Horned Owl is a fairly common resident. It's "ooot-too-hoo, hoo-hoo" is often heard in the night and it frequently makes visits to the chicken roosts of the vicinity. (15) Nighthawk, (16) Whip-poor-will, (17) Chimney Swift, and (18) Ruby-throated Hummingbird, all strong flyers, are commonly noted throughout the breeding season. (19) Belted Kingfishers are uncommon along our streams. Five woodpeckers, (20) Flicker, (21) Downy, (22) Hairy, (23) Pileated, and (24) Red-headed nest here. The Pileated, however, is an extremely rare bird for us. The (25) Kingbird, (26) Phoebe, (27) Wood Pewee and (28) Acadian Flycatchers are the nesting members of this family.

(29) Blue Jay, (30) Crow, (31) Carolina Chickadee, (32) Tufted Titmouse, (33) House Wren, (34) Carolina Wren, (35) Purple Martin, (36) Catbird, (37) Brown Thrasher, (38) Robin, (39) Wood Thrush, (40) Bluebird, (41) Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, (42) Starling, and (43) English Sparrow are numbered among the "everyday" birds which nest here. Of this category, we might say that the Blue Jay

is seldom seen in the hills except in the autumn when the fields and woodlands resound with their incessant squalls and that the Gnatcatcher, Brown Thrasher and Starling is not quite so plentiful as the others.

The Warblers listed include the (44) Black and White, (45) Yellow, (46) Prairie Warblers and the (47) Ovenbird, (48) Maryland Yellowthroat and (49) Yellow-breasted Chat. The Sparrows and Finches include the (50) Cardinal, (51) Indigo Bunting, (52) Goldfinch, (53) Red-eyed Towhee, (54) Chipping, (55) Field and (56) Song Sparrows. The (57) Summer Tanager is quite abundant while the (58) Scarlet Tanager is uncommon, further checking being necessary on this bird. The family Icteridae presents the (59) Eastern Meadowlark, (60) Orchard Oriole, (61) Red-wing, (62) Cowbird, and (63) Bronzed Grackle. Two Vireos, the abundant (64) Red-eyed Vireo and the uncommon (65) White-eyed Vireo, together with the (66) White-breasted Nuthatch complete the list to date.

In addition to the sixty-six birds listed, I have information regarding five or six more. However, as the information gathered to date is not quite sufficient to include them at this time, I have omitted them and will seek to definitely establish their status during next season.

—ERCEL KOZEE, Johns Run, Ky.

June 30, 1938.

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THE SEASON AT BEREA COLLEGE

The Berea Ornithological Society, recently organized, has been making splendid progress. Weekly morning trips are made around Berea, Ky., and lists made up to June 1st, 1938, total one hundred sixteen species. Rather rare or unusual finds include the Ruffed Grouse, Woodcock, Great Blue Heron, Sora, Philadelphia Vireo, Worm-eating Warbler, Canada Warbler, Parula Warbler, Least Flycatcher and Olive-sided Flycatcher.

We were unusually fortunate on the mornings of May 8th, and 15th, to see a large number of warblers during their migration. Twenty-four species were listed: Black and White, Worm-eating, Blackburnian, Nashville, Tennessee, Cape May, Yellow, Myrtle, Magnolia, Chestnut-sided, Bay-breasted, Black-throated Green, Prairie, Kentucky, Hooded, Canada, Black-poll, Parula, Caerulean and Blue-winged Warblers and the Ovenbird, Louisiana Water-thrush, Maryland Yellowthroat and Yellow-breasted Chat.

We were even more fortunate on May 29th, for we saw three Pileated Woodpeckers in the vicinity of the lower reservoir on the Big Hill Road. There were two adults and one young. We were able to approach the latter but were unable to catch and band it. According to the records in the files of the Curator of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, this is the first official breeding record for Madison County.

—JOHN B. LOEFER, Berea, Ky.

June 16, 1938.

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EDITORIAL

When Dr. Gordon Wilson first started storing up in his note book the results of his trips afield among the birds, he perhaps did not contemplate a regular publication for them. He was merely gathering them for his own enjoyment and refreshment.

To glance through the pages of his many articles is to realize how far and wide he pursued the quest, into the fields, forests and

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swamps, along the banks of streams and shores of lakes and ponds; to realize the enthusiasm and energy which caused him to dream of a fraternity of bird students of this state.

"Two are better than one" is a truth applicable to the Kentucky Ornithological Society. The pleasure of bird study is greatly enhanced by knowing others with whom to share it. There is something so fascinating, so enlivening, about otudoor study of birds, that those who acquire the taste for it fall into a sort of natural fraternity. People who know the birds are acquainted the moment they meet. Different ones find different things. It is a special thrill to compare notes, a mutual pleasure to give and receive new information, to compare photographs of bird-subjects.

Dr. Wilson's efforts and inspiration has placed in all our hands the power to realize his dream—a society of bird students. Here in The Kentucky Warbler is furnished a bond of union between bird students all over the state. All can feel that though they may live in the remotest spots, they can easily, if they will, be in touch with kindred spirits in other sections. Through this publication anyone can have the privilege of alliance with the fraternity of those like-minded.

Let the reader browse but a moment and realize that success can be attained by all efforts being directed to one goal: the continuance of this publication and the strengthening of the K. O. S. What inspired the founders should set other pulses to beating. What stimulated and uplifted the officers from year to year should furnish others with the desire to end the struggle for existence because of financial difficulties. No one who intelligently tries to know the birds is working alone or in isolated groups.

A larger publication—a better society—a greater membership—such at least is the purpose of this editorial; such is the pious hope of all those who have the interests of the K. O. S. at heart.

* * * * * * * *

A new group for the purpose of studying Kentucky birds has recently been organized at Berea College, Berea, Ky. With such enthusiastic and capable leaders as John B. Loefer and Johnnie Patten, it is destined to become a real success. We hope that they will some day become affiliated with the Kentucky Ornithological Society as the Berea Chapter. Congratulations to them on the fine progress they have made thus far.

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Several requests for back numbers of the Kentucky Warbler have recently been received and any member having such numbers for sale are urged to forward such information to the Secretary.

REMEMBER THE FALL MEETING AT CYNTHIANA

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therefore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to EDWARD M. RAY, Secty-treasurer, 2613 Grimstead Drive, Louisville, Ky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in The Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to BURT L. MONROE, Editor, 207 Birchwood, Louisville, Ky.

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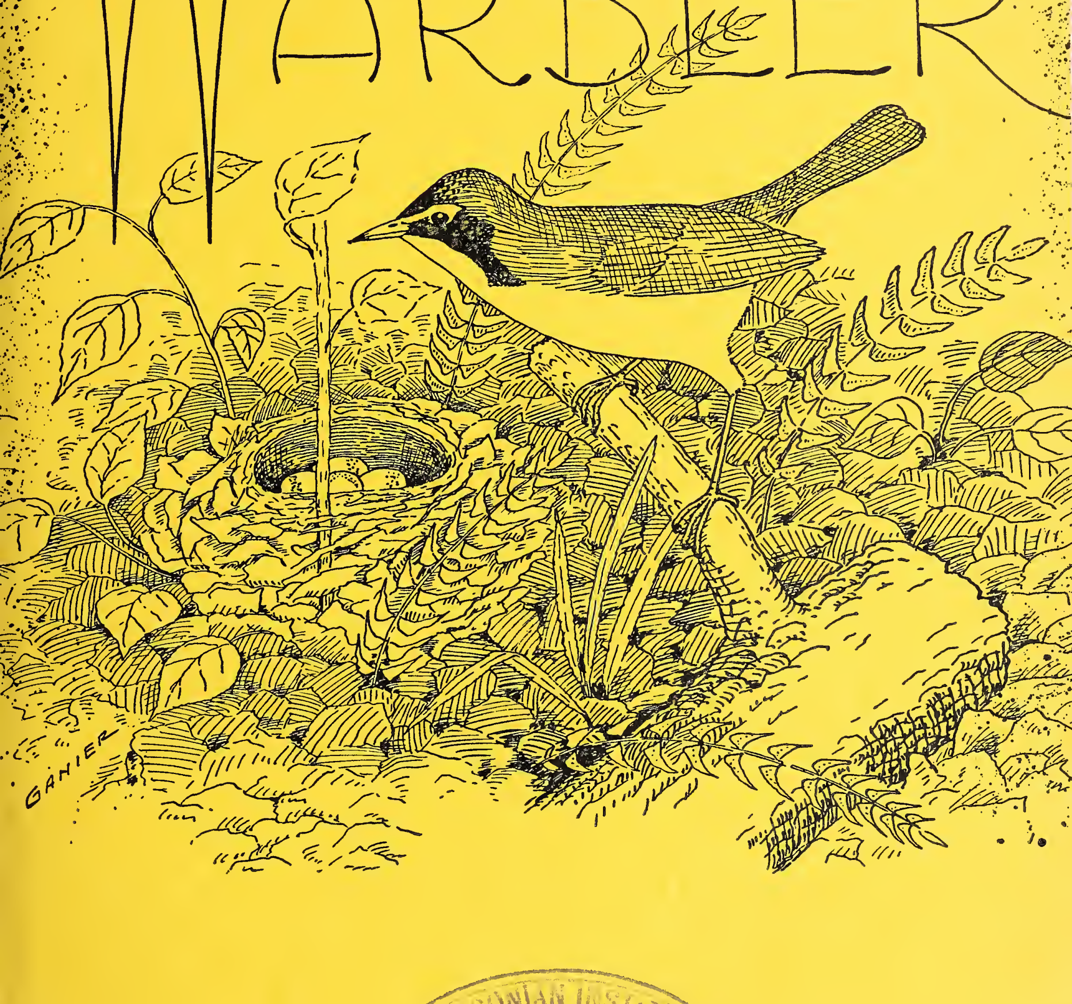
THE KENTUCKY WARBLER



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"To sift the sparkling from the dull and the true from the false is the aim of every Ornithologist."

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PICTURE THIEF IN THE HERON'S NEST

By ALLAN M. TROUT

(Reprinted through the courtesy of the Courier-Journal)

There are still happy hunting grounds in Kentucky, particularly if the huntsman uses a camera instead of a gun. The game is plentiful, the thrills are exhilarating, and the satisfaction of a successful hunt is ample compensation for the danger and patience involved.

The idea of shooting birds with a camera immediately suggests the Audubon country around Henderson, where the greatest naturalist of them all made his world-famous observations and drawings early in the last century.

And that is where the expedition hereafter described turned—to the Audubon Heronry twelve miles southwest of Henderson and two miles from the head of Diamond Island in the Ohio River. In hunting parlance, the field was baited. For it was nesting season for the Great Blue Heron, the Egret, and the Double-Crested Cormorant. The young birds were still in their nests, hungry, restless and noisy. The old birds were busy as beavers bringing in food; too busy to pay much attention to the cameraman and his crew of helpers.

And therein lay the secret of the expedition's success. The young birds couldn't fly away, and the old birds wouldn't leave their offspring.

H. Harold Davis, photographer for The Courier-Journal, went to the swamp's edge by automobile. With him were Capt. R. C. Soaper, agent for the Game Management Division of the U. S. Biological Survey; State Game Warden James V. Sellers; Leon Busby, lineman for Henderson's municipal power plant, and Bob Denton, a steeplejack.

The party paused long enough to put on hip boots. Then they shouldered their paraphernalia and started wading through brackish backwaters, choked with debris left by a late spring flood.

The heronry was about a half-mile inside the swamp, but it was heard long before it was seen. The clattering symphony of shrieking, fluttering birds in and around some 200 nests heightened interest in the party below and led unerringly to a small grove of majestic pecan, maple and gum trees.

Ky. Ornith. Soc. 175144

JUL 24

Captain Soaper selected a fine pecan tree right in the center of the grove. It was on a tiny island in the slough of backwaters, was straight as a die and towered to about 125 feet. It was forty feet to the first limb. At the top were twenty nests, all higher than those in the surrounding trees. Hence, if Mr. Davis could get himself and his camera to the top of that tree, he could snap the birds there and look down into the nests all around him.

But getting him up there was the problem. Fortunately for the expedition, Lineman Busby and Steeplejack Denton solved it nicely.

Mr. Busby climbed to the first limb with his poleclimbing gear, although he more than once gave up hope because the pecan bark was too thin to give his spurs safe anchorage. But he made it, and soon had a block and tackle secured to the first limb. The gear was triple-threaded with 375 feet of strong rope and was fitted with a small hoisting seat.

The professional steeplejack quickly hoisted himself to the first crotch, then lowered the seat for Cameraman Davis. In no time at all the three of them were standing on the first limb, forty feet above ground.

The steeplejack then "cooned" up the tree another forty feet, there being a smaller trunk and several limbs to his advantage. He lifted the top end of the block and tackle and tied it around the strongest limb in reach, close to the trunk. That was called making a "second hitch," meaning that this gear was not long enough to have reached from that point to the ground.

The cameraman was soon in the little seat, being hoisted another forty feet. Mr. Busby, the lineman, then climbed several feet more, but stayed well under the cameraman and the steeplejack. The last two, then being well up in the bushy part of the tree, climbed higher by ten to fifteen feet.

The huntsman was now ready to begin shooting in his baited field. It had taken him more than an hour to get up there, but there he was up a pecan tree nearly 100 feet, with a pair of hip boots on his feet and nearly $1,000 worth of cameras and equipment hanging from his neck.

And he stayed up there three hours, making picture after picture of young herons and cormorants in their big nests; the old birds wheeling in from the sloughs and river, gorged with fish to be regurgitated into the greedy mouths of their young. There were nests around him and below, but few above.

Getting down was as difficult as getting up and, too, required about an hour. Steeplejack Denton was the last to lower himself on the little seat. He had secured the block and tackle to the first limb with a slip knot so that when he reached the ground he could jerk the guide line and unslip the knot. The gear then would fall from its anchorage, there being no one left in the tree to untie it.

But he tugged and tugged at the little guide line, and still the slip knot wouldn't unslip. One of the larger ropes had fouled it.

With professional disdain of the danger involved, and against the advice of his associates, Denton climbed back up that rope hand over hand not knowing, perhaps, that those on the ground had steeled themselves to a tragic climax to the day's sport. The knot, you see, had been tied so a tiny jerk would unloosen it.

Safely down again, Denton was the first to speak.

"Boys," he said, "that's the first time in four years one of them knots hasn't worked right for me."

Nobody knows for how long or why herons have been nesting in this swampy place on the bank of the Ohio in Henderson County. An old man on the Indiana side has told Captain Soaper he knows they have been nesting every year there since 1882. Maybe Audubon encouraged the first few with some sort of protection, and they just kept on wheeling up from the Gulf Coast the last of February and the first of March. Who knows?

At that, the heronry has been receiving organized protection only two years, thanks to the interest of the Kentucky Ornithological Society. It was in 1936 that the owners of the area cut out the more valuable timber, but Captain Soaper and the society co-operated to acquire the grove of magnificent pecan trees and several inferior surrounding trees that had been favorite nesting places for the birds year after year.

Each tree is posted with a bright yellow sign, and woe to him who molests them or the birds they shelter. Conviction in the Federal Courts carries a fine of $500 and six months in jail, and in the State courts $100 fine and thirty days in jail.

There are only three other known heronries in this area, east of Reelfoot Lake. There is a small one on the Six-Mile Island, near Louisville; another one under the bluffs at Barlow in Ballard County, and another near Waldron, Ind. The heronry at Henderson marks virtually the exact center of the migratory waterfowl populations in Captain Soaper's district of the U. S. Biological Survey, composed of Kentucky, West Virginia, Southern Indiana, Southern Ohio and Southern Illinois. The one at Reelfoot Lake, of course, is one of the greatest inland refuges in the Middle West.

Indications are that the 200 nests at the Audubon Heronry do not fluctuate much in number from year to year. The number may seem small to the casual observer, but it is heartening to the conservationist. At the average hatch of three birds a nest a year, 33,600 grown birds have been added to a wontonly-ravished species within the memory of the old gentleman in Indiana who first noted the nesting place in 1882.

The egret, particularly, needs just the protection that the Audubon Heronry affords. At one time, it was near extinction because the long white plumes which the birds wear on their backs during the nesting season were sought as adornments for women's hats. The bird is so wild that it can't be bagged except during the nesting season. The price for a single egret shot during the nesting season (when the beautiful plumes are out) has been as high as $10.

The wild egrets stayed in character while the cameraman perched in their pecan tree. None of the old birds flew closer than to make wide circles overhead, but the young ones in their nests were fair game for the Leica lens.

The great blue heron is the largest of the American herons. It is stately, dignified and interesting. The heron fishes without stirring from the shallow water in which it wades. It stands motionless, its long, slender neck doubled into a flattened S. As a fish approaches, it holds the rigid position until the quarry comes within striking range. Then the curved neck straightens, the long, rapier-like bill shoots downward with a stroke quicker than the eye, and Mr. Fish disappears.

Or, the heron may be seen walking slowly through shallow water, carefully lifting each foot above the surface and sliding it into the water again so gently as to cause hardly a ripple.

The herons and cormorants are solitary birds in habits until the breeding season; then they show a remarkable gregarious instinct by forming colonies such as the one at Audubon Heronry. They fly in from the South in late winter, and return by late September. They arrive and depart in very small groups, showing the colonizing instincts only during nesting and care of the young. It is not unusual for egrets to join herons and cormorants in building nests in the same tree.

Being fish eaters, the herons and cormorants are inclined to gorge both themselves and their young. At the least excitement both young and old will disgorge partially digested fish, frogs and crawfish, causing a virtual torrent of putrid matter to fall from the tree-tops. A routine precaution is to wear old clothes and large straw hats when visiting a heronry.

Eels are a great favorite with the cormorant, both young and old. When first hatched, cormorants look like little animated, greasy rubber bags. In a few days they take on a coat of heavy down, then develop into magnificient birds with black feathers, coppery-gray wings with gray edges and two curly black crests on the head.

These migratory fowls are considered an asset around backwaters, sloughs or sluggish running water. They catch the "rough" fish, that is, slow or diseased fish, rather than game fish. They clean out fish that have been trapped inland by overflows, fish that otherwise would die as the sloughs dry up.

The birds are beautiful assets to areas where wildlife is preserved and protected, as in the Reelfoot Lake section. There are thousands of herons, miscalled "cranes" in that area, a source of never-ending delight to the visitors there. They are popular attractions at zoos, botanical gardens and resort lakes.

* * * * * *

ANOTHER HERONRY FOUND IN KENTUCKY

While hunting the lowlands near Goose Pond which is located in the western part of Union County, Kentucky, Mr. Walter Westerfield, of Morganfield, Kentucky discovered July 4, 1938 a "heronry" in several large cypress trees which were growing in a swamp near the southern end of Goose Pond which is about 3½ miles northwest of Spring Grove, Kentucky.

Mr. Westerfield stated that there were 25 great blue herons, Ardea herodias herodias, about the nest when the site was discovered which was brought about by the noise which the birds were making.

The writer visited the heronry July 7 and found that there were 34 nests which were located in the tops of six cypress trees varying from 36 inches to 64 inches in diameter and towering about 125 feet into the air. Eight was the highest number of nests observed in a single tree. One nest had blown from a tree. On this visit twelve great blue herons were counted in the trees about the nest. The young could fly so undoubtedly some birds had left the heronry. Seven dead herons were counted on the ground and one dead heron that had lodged in the top of a tree was mute evidence that the bird had been shot.

Most of the nests were in good condition and since there is a small number of nests one would conclude that this year is the first time that this species had nested in this site.

Further observations next year might indicate the permanency of the "heronry" but in the meantime efforts should be made to protect this heronry from the lumberman and gunner.

—RAYMOND J. FLEETWOOD, Madisonville,, Ky.

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NEED FOR HERON PROTECTION

The two preceding articles clearly outline the pressing need for protection of the Heron Rookeries, several of which have recently sprung up in various parts of our state. In the Audubon Heronry, money was put up by individuals to purchase the trees containing the nests. It would be well if the Kentucky Ornithological Society and its friends set up a fund, aside from regular dues, to be used exclusively for this particular purpose. Any contributions along this line will be graciously received by the Society. Send contributions to the Secretary.

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NOTES ON THE AUTUMN PLUMAGE OF WARBLERS

In the fall of the year, there are many species of warblers which in general are olive green above and yellowish below and are therefore very difficult to distinguish. To aid in their identification, the following points have been listed. They do not attempt to gve a complete description of each of the species but give a general one and list some features which are diagnostic of the different species.

Most of the data was secured from "A Field Guide to the Birds," by Roger Tory Peterson, "The Warblers of North America," by Frank M. Chapman, "The Birds of Minnesota," by T. S. Roberts and "The Birds of Massachusetts" by E. H. Forbush. To these authors, I make special acknowledgement.

PART ONE—(All species under this heading have two white wing bars).

Magnolia Warbler—All ages and sexes. Brownish olive above and yellow below. A few faint streaks on the flanks. **Rump yellow, tail black crossed midway by white band.** Faint eye ring.

Pine Warbler—Larger than most warblers. Back unstreaked. Faint white marks on middle of outer tail feathers. (a) Adult male. Olive green above. Underparts canary yellow, brightest on throat. Dim streaks on breast. (b) Adult female; young. Dull olive above. Underparts whitish or dull yellow, faintly streaked with dusky on sides.

Black-Throated Green Warbler—Immature female only. Olive above yellow cheeks, throat and breast fading to white on crissum and sides, which are streaked.

Black-Poll Warbler—All birds in fall in varying degree. Above olive green, dingy yellow below. More or less streaked above and on sides. **White under tail coverts.** Some have faint yellow eye ring and yellow stripe over eye. Each individual wing feather shows rather distinctly due to yellow edging around darker center.

Bay-Breasted Warbler—All fall birds. Olive green above, dingy buffy yellow below. Some birds have bay color on sides. **Yellow under tail coverts.** Faint streaks on back and sides.

PART TWO—(No wing bars except in very few cases one may imagine one sees a faint yellowish bar).

Tennessee Warbler—All fall birds. Olive green above, yellowish below. **Only Warbler with unstreaked yellow breast and yellow line over eye.** Under tail coverts white.

Orange-Crowned Warbler—All fall birds in varying degree. Above olive green, below lighter olive green or dingy yellow, **faintly streaked.** Head may be gray and crown patch is usually hidden or lacking. Often has faint yellow eye ring and streak over eye.

Nashville Warbler—All fall birds. Back olive green, underparts yellow. Top of head grayish. White eye ring and **yellow throat.** Crown patch wanting or difficult to see. **Legs dark.**

Connecticut Warbler—Female and young male. **Under tail coverts yellow and extend nearly to end of tail.** Olive above, yellow below. Trace of gray or brown on head and dark stain as a band across the breast. Walks instead of hops. (This bird is to be found in Kentucky in the spring but as it migrates chiefly along the Atlantic seaboard in the fall, it is not apt to be encountered with here).

Mourning Warbler—Female adult and all young. Head and neck gray. Sometimes traces of white or yellow eye ring. Olive above, yellow below. Under tail coverts yellow and **reach only one-half way to end of tail.**

Canada Warbler—Immature. Gray or brownish upper parts, bright yellow under parts. May be trace of necklace on breast. No white on wings or tail.

Bachman's Warbler—Female. Olive upper parts. Under parts yellow fading to brownish white on lower belly and crissum. Top of head and aurniculars blue gray. **Forehead yellow.**

Hooded Warbler—Female and young. Plain olive above. Forehead yellow, rest of head olive or grayish black. A little white in tail. **Bill black.**

Wilson's Warbler—Female and young. Either yellow all over except trace of black cap or plain olive green above and bright yellow below. **No streaks, marks or wing bars of any kind.** Eye black, round and beady. Bill not black. A rather small warbler.

Maryland Yellow-Throat—Female and young. Plain olive green except yellow throat and bresat. No black mask. **Belly whitish.** Legs light color.

Yellow Warbler—Only small bird that is yellow all over. Male shows at close range, red streaks on breast. These are either very faint or lacking on female and young. Only species that has yellow spots on tail, i. e., these spots are merely of a more brilliant yellow than the balance of the tail.

Other warblers have more distinctive markings and are not included here for that reason. The ones included are simply the ones that make ornithologists go crazy in the fall.

—FLOYD S. CARPENTER, Louisville, Ky.

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SWIFTS ROOSTING IN TREES NEAR LOUISVILLE

When the reader has read through the caption of this note, he may be a bit disappointed to find that the observations chronicled were not made during the Swift migration now in progress. Perhaps, however, the fact that they were made by so renowned a birdman as John James Audubon may compensate somewhat even though some one hundred and thirty years have elapsed. In his Ornithological Biographies, in the chapter on Chimney Swifts, Mr. Audubon writes as follows: "Immediately after my arrival in Louisville (in 1808) . . . . the late Major Wm. Grogan, upon whom I had called, asked me if I had ever seen the trees in which Swifts were supposed to spend the winter but which they only entered for the purpose of roosting." Upon answering in the affirmative, Major Grogan described the location of such a tree near Louisville. "I found it to be a sycamore," writes Audubon, "nearly destitute of branches, about sixty feet high, seven or eight feet in diameter at the base and about five feet at the distance of forty feet up, at which place the hollowed stump of a broken limb, about two feet in diameter, made off from the trunk." The tree was found to be hard and firm, though a mere shell and hollow to the roots. On that July evening he watched the birds entering at dusk in great numbers.

"I did not pretend to count them for the number was too great, and the birds rushed to the entrance so thick as to baffle the attempt." Next morning he returned to the tree "before the least appearance of daylight" and heard sounds within. About twenty minutes later, however, he heard such a roar overhead that he thought the tree was coming down. He placed his ear to the trunk and listened to the roar within as the birds began to pour out of the hole above.

"It was very dusky, so that I could hardly see the hour by my watch, but I estimated the time which they took in getting out as more than thirty minutes." Desiring to see the birds within and their manner of roosting, Audubon had a hole cut in the tree near the ground, leveled a space within to stand upon, closed the aperture and left, to return several evenings later at nine. "All was perfectly silent" he writes, as he entered with a dark lantern and accompanied by a friend. They slowly raised the light and there "we saw Swifts clinging side by side, covering the whole surface of the excavation. In no instance did we see one above (upon the back of) another."

He calculated the area of the inner surface of the trunk and, assuming that each bird covered a space of three by one and a half inches, estimated there were about nine thousand birds inside. This estimate compares favorably with maximum actual counts in recent years by bird banders.

Audubon states that while Swifts were still roosting and nesting in hollow trees, that this had already become exceptional, so quickly had the birds adopted the chimneys of those who had begun to settle that part of Kentucky less than three decades before. Might we not suppose that at least some of these "reformed" Swifts had followed the settlers down the Ohio and introduced the new custom to their backwoods kin?

—ALBERT F. GANIER, Nashville, Tenn.

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NOTES FROM PICKETT STATE FOREST

So successful and enjoyable was the bird trip of the T. O. S. to Roan Mountain in 1936, that it was decided in 1937 to go to Pickett State Forest, an area of 11,500 acres. Situated in Pickett County, Tennessee, this wilderness lies on the north end of the Cumberland Plateau, and is bounded on the north by Wayne County, Kentucky. As the habitat on each side of the line is identical, the birds found may be considered Kentucky species. Not long ago, the best timber having been removed, the tract was given by the owners to the State of Tennessee.

An interesting letter and a map by Albert F. Ganier, then editor of "The Migrant," served to attract a party of fourteen. Present for the entire week were Alfred Clebsch, Sr. and Alfred Clebsch, Jr., of Clarksville, Tenn., Dr. Cynthia Counce and Howard Counce, of Memphis, Tenn., Dr. George Davis, Murfreesboro, Tenn., Albert F. Ganier, Nashville, Tenn., Mabel Slack, Robert Mengel and the writer from Louisville, Ky. Present part time were M. S. Carter, William Hay, Mary Lee, Dr. George R. Mayfield, and F. A. Pattie, Jr. The week was that of June 14-20, 1937.

There is more primitive country in this region than in any similar area. The Cumberland River, Rock Creek, Big Laurel, and the Wolf River cut deep gorges through the forest. The valleys are flanked by high sandstone escarpments. Chimney Rock, just across the line in Kentucky is one of the most spectacular monoliths east of the Rockies, rising more than 150 feet. This was visited by Mr. Ganier and three companions, who photographed it from the top of a nearby pine.

The plant life of the area is luxuriant. Hemlocks grow along the streams, while short leaf and scrub pines, as well as a few stately white pines are abundant. Most abundant, however, are the hardwoods, such as oaks, ash, dogwood, and others. Mountain laurel and white rhododendron are abundant, and were blooming profusely during our visit.. Among the lovely ferns we found, especially at Hazard's Cave, were marginal shield, mountain spleenwort, climbing ferns, Christmas ferns, and others, to mention a few.

A careful census of the birds present was made, and several species of particular interest, as pertains to Kentucky, were found. Six Duck Hawks were noted on various occasions, and an eyrie was found about two miles from the state line. One bird was observed at the state line, and as the habitat is everywhere suitable, it seems probable that the Duck Hawk breeds in both Wayne County, Kentucky, and Pickett County, Tennessee. The Red-cockaded Woodpecker was seen on three occasions, once within less than a mile of the line. This bird being of roving habits, and a permanent resident, it too doubtless breeds, or at least occurs in Wayne County. Another interesting thing is the case of the Raven. They formerly nested in Rock Creek canyon, probably in each state, until driven away six or seven years ago by a logging railway. It is said that a pair of

Golden Eagles also nested in the same valley until a few years ago. These birds may possibly have been the last of their kind to breed in Kentucky. An unexpected find, by Robert Mengel, was the Black-crowned Night Heron. All told, 69 species of summer birds, representing the work of all members, were recorded. Especially indebted were we to Alfred Clebsch, Sr. for the composite list of birds seen by all observers. Several of the most interesting species follow:

Eastern Ruffed Grouse. Although none of our party recorded it, we were told by workers in the forest that it is fairly common.

Wild Turkey. Very rare but reported reliably as being occasionly shot.

Great Horned Owl. One heard near the state line. It should be common.

Southern Pileated Woodpecker. Rarer than expected as only four were seen.

Northern Pine Warbler. Common.

Northern Prairie Warbler. Voted the most abundant bird.

Hooded Warbler. Common.

Scarlet Taneger. Common on the ridges.

Bachman's Sparrow. Nine recorded singing.

A Chuck-will's Widow was heard on June 14, near Pall Mall, and a brood of newly fledged Prairie Horned Larks was seen four miles north of Byrdstown in Clinton County, Kentucky. For complete list see the graphic study of "Summer Birds of Pickett Forest," by Albert F. Ganier in "The Migrant" for June, 1937.

—EMILIE YUNKER, Louisville, Ky.

* * * * * *

THE SEASON AT LOUISVILLE

Continued rains and high water kept the Falls submerged far past the usual time, forcing local observers elsewhere. Wood Ducks have been in greater evidence this year than previously, as many as twenty being seen at a time. Alder Flycatchers were present in Caperton's Swamp until July 30, when a specimen was finally collected from a family of this year's birds. Dickcissels were rather common during the summer, especially near Worthington. On July 21, the first migratory shorebird of the season, a Solitary Sandpiper, was seen. It was followed on the 23rd by Pectorals, two Least, and a Semipalmated Sandpiper. These were at the mud flat by the pumping station of the L. Water Co., and repeated on the 29th. Fifteen Upland Plovers on the Municipal Airport on the 30th gave us a pleasant surprise.

The Falls finally became accessible on Aug. 18, and were first visited on the 20th when Pectoral, Least, Spotted, and Semipalmated Sandpipers in moderate numbers; six L. Yellowlegs, and a dozen Semipalmated Plovers were listed. Semip. Sandpipers became numerous on the 24th, and a Black-bellied Plover arrived on the same date, remaining until the 26th. The 26th brought two Buff-breasted Sandpipers, seen by Mrs. Hobson and myself. One of the latter was collected on the next day by Monroe, making the second Falls and State record. Two Caspian Terns, a Piping Plover, two Baird's Sandpipers, and a Duck Hawk, arrived on the 27th. Messrs.

Goodpaster, Koch, and Maslowski were here on the 28th and succeeded in collecting the Piping Plover and the first Stilt Sandpiper of the year. Caspian Terns were again seen on Sept. 1, and the 2nd brought two (Long billed?) Dowitchers to the mud-flat mentioned above. Sanderlings were seen on Aug. 20, (3) and Sept. 3, (2). Two Stilt and a Baird's Sandpiper showed up at the flat on Sept. 5, the latter again on the 10th and 11th. Three White Pelicans, the first from the area, were reported on the Falls the morning of Sept. 5th. The report was verified the same afternoon by Miss Slack and Mrs. Hobson. Two Golden Plovers and a Buff-breasted Sandpiper were collected on the 11th, when Maslowski, Koch, and Goodpaster, with Mr. Ganier, again visited. The only Osprey of the summer was also seen.

Both Egrets and Terns have been very rare this year. Not more than a dozen Americans, one Little Blue, and no Snowies, completes the total; and Terns were even fewer. Only two G. Yellowlegs were seen during the summer—another unusual scarcity.

Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were recorded on Sept. 10, 11, 18, 19, and 20, with the largest number at five. Warblers seen, mostly on the 18th and 19th, are as follows: Nashville, Tennessee, Redstart, Magnolia, Cape May, Black and White, Bay-breasted, Ovenbird, Black-poll, Blackburnian, Black-throated Blue, and Parula. The migration has been good, compared with the rather poor spring showing. Two Cliff Swallows at the Swamp on Sept. 19, were thirteen days later than our previous last date.

—ROBERT M. MENGEL, Louisville, Ky.

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MOLOTHRUS ATER ATER alias COWBIRD
PUBLIC BIRD ENEMY NO. 1

Known as the Cowbird, Cow Bunting or Cow Blackbird from its habit of alighting on the backs of cows or cattle, where it sits contentedly while they are grazing, this bird is a notorious bird enemy, a parasite. It does not build a nest but, like the European Cuckoo, lays its eggs in the nests of other birds, usually in those of species smaller than itself. Generally a single egg is deposited, but as many as five have been found in a nest. I found three eggs of this bird in the nest of a Kentucky Warbler in which there were only two eggs of the rightful owner. The exact number the female lays is not known as far as I can ascertain.

Just what birds have been parasitized by this intruder present a never-ending and increasing list. I have been able to collect information that eggs have been found in the nest's of the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Black and White Warbler, Parula Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Maryland Yellowthroat, Yellow Warbler, House Wren, Warbling Vireo, White-eyed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Indigo Bunting, Song Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Eastern Goldfinch, Swamp Sparrow, Slate-colored Junco, Ovenbird, Wood Pewee, Acadian Flycatcher, Traill's Flycatcher, Dickcissel, English Sparrow, Yellow-breasted Chat, Bluebird, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Bullock's Oriole, Hooded Oriole, Scarlet Tanager, Kingbird, Red-eyed Towhee, Prairie Horned Lark, Wilson's Thrush, Wood Thrush, Red-headed Woodpecker, Robin and Mourning Dove.

Of this list, I have found many of them parasitized by the Cowbird but on May 28th, 1938, I added another "host," to me the most unusual and interesting of all. During a motor boat trip up Harrod's

Creek in Jefferson County, Kentucky, I had occasion to inspect a veritable colony of nests of the Prothonotary Warbler (Protonotaria citrea). Most of the nests, built in small holes in dead snags contained eggs. One nest, in a very small cavity, contained five eggs of the Warbler and one egg of the Cowbird. To all appearances, the entrance to the nest was entirely too small for a Cowbird to enter, yet the egg within was very heavily incubated along with those of the rightful owner. Unfortunately, the set could not be preserved. How the Cowbird was able to lay in this nest will always be a mystery to me.

The study of the Cowbird is a most interesting one and should be carried further as to its parasitic habit. Eggs of this bird are subject to great variation in their size and markings, and when found in the nests of such birds as the Cardinal, Towhee, Meadowlark and Brown Thrasher, it is sometimes difficult to distinguish which is which. Yet it should not be understood that the Cowbird's eggs look exactly like those of the species just mentioned, for they really have, on the whole, only a faint resemblance to them, and when a large series of either species is brought together and compared with those of the Cowbird, the difference is at once apparent.

It is a common sight to see a small Sparrow or Warbler feeding a young Cowbird almost twice its size. When you witness it, you can feel certain that one or more birds of the host species sacrificed all so that it might be here. It is most certainly a contemptible species—yet a hardy and interesting one.

—BURT L. MONROE, Louisville, Ky.

October, 1938.

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FALL MEETING OF THE K. O. S.

The annual Fall Meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society will be held in Lexington, Ky., on October 27, 28 and 29, 1938. Mr. Victor K. Dodge, for many years a pioneer in bird work in Fayette County and a leader in the Lexington Audubon Society, will act as host and will assist in formulating a program for our entertainment. Large delegations are expected from Louisville, Lexington, Berea, Bowling Green, Madisonville and Henderson as well as many visitors from our contemporary cities of Nashville, Tenn., Indianapolis, Ind., and Cincinnati, Ohio. Field trips have been arranged to visit the many lakes and reservoirs in the vicinity of Lexington and as the meeting will be held at the height of the waterfowl migration, a great many birds may be studied.

General programs will be held on Friday and Saturday nights. The business session will be held on Saturday morning at 10 A. M., with field trips scheduled for Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. Make your plans now to be with us.

* * * * * *

One of our most loyal members in the K. O. S. is Mr. W. Foster Hayes, of Harvey, Illinois. Always a booster for the Society, he never passes up an opportunity to create good will for us and to interest groups in forming a chapter. Recently, he has been doing some excellent work in Owensboro, Ky., and has lined up several enthusiastic members in that region. We will probably have a chapter there in the very near future.

Mr. Hayes, in addition to being on the alert for prospective members, is also always on the alert for birds. His keenness was rewarded immensely when, during the middle of September while visit-

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ing at Old Mission, about seventeen miles north of Traverse City, Michigan, he saw perhaps the rarest bird he has ever seen. In his own words, he states, "On the twenty-second instant, I had the good fortune to find an Artic Three-toed Woodpecker, which, as Strickland Gilliian said about the Purple Cow, I had never seen and never hoped to see. The Book of Birds of America says that on account of the rarity of this bird a sight of one is always an event in bird observation. I think there is not the slightest doubt as to the identity as, with a companion, I had a good view of it for perhaps a quarter of an hour. It was in the tops of several dead trees during that time."

* * * * * *

WE GO A'FIELD

"Nature is the true idealist," wrote Emerson. "When she serves us best, she speaks to the imagination; we feel that the huge heaven and earth are but a web drawn around us; that the light, skies and mountains are but the painted changes of the soul."

Nature is more than a screen on which we project ourselves. The calm peace of a country landscape, the challenging inspiration of a colossal tree, the mysterious beauty of a waterfall affect us much more than a city scene. When tired, ill, or even happy, human beings turn to Nature as readily as a child to its mother.

The late Dr. Frank Crane once said, "A good dose of the outdoors would cure almost anything. Go out doors and get rid of nerves. Religion, faith, hope, love and courage inhabit the woods and meadows. Where but outdoors can you learn biology, geology, ornithology, astronomy and the like? Real science lives outdoors as much as leapfrog."

Thousands realize the logic of this statement, but business activities, professional pursuits, civic and home duties prevent them from following such advice. Yet more and more people are getting out in the woods and fields.

Nature, too, is the source of all knowledge. The pages of her great good, scattered over the continents and seas, have written upon them wonderful secrets; they are filled with tragedies and comedies; they are crowded with curiouus facts and fascinating tales.

The purpose of all nature articles is to collect some of these scattered pages, and present them to you in a manner as entertaining as possible. We like to present them to you in these pages of this bulletin so that your enjoyment of the outdoors and its denizens may become greater and so that your knowledge of the things around you may become more profound. To sift the sparkling from the dull and to sift the true from the false is our aim.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therefore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Edward M. Ray, Secty-treasurer, 2613 Grimstead Drive, Louisville, Ky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in The Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Burt L. Monroe, Editor, 207 Birchwood, Louisville, Ky.

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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull and the true from the false is the aim of every Ornithologist."

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OUR FALL MEETING

The fourteenth annual fall meting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society was held in Lexington, November 4-6, 1938. The local bird enthusiasts, led by Major Victor K. Dodge, gave us a very warm welcome. Everywhere we felt the fine spirit that the Lexington chapter of the American Audubon Society has been building up for many years.

On the evening of November 4, Dr. J. D. Figgins, of the Bernheim Foundation, showed four excellent reels of bird pictures, secured through the Department of Conservation of Colorado. Dr. Gordon Wilson, of Bowling Green, spoke on "A Preliminary Bird List for the Mammoth Cave National Park."

On Saturday morning, November 5, we held our annual business session. A nominating committee, composed of Dr. Wilson, Miss Emilie Yunker, and Mr. Floyd S. Carpenter, submitted a list of nominees, two for each office. The following officers were elected for the next year:

President—Mr. Burt L. Monroe, Louisville.
Vice-President—Mr. Raymond Fleetwood, Paducah.
Secretary-Treasurer—Mr. Virgil King, Louisville.

Councillors:

Dr. T. Atchison Frazer, Marion.
Mr. B. C. Bacon, Madisonville.
Dr. Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green.
} Ex-officio as past presidents
Miss Emilie Yunker, Louisville.
Major Victor Dodge, Lexington.
Dr. L. Y. Lancaster, Bowling Green.

After our business session we visited the library and museum of Transylvania College, where we saw some of the rarest and most valuable first editions of great ornithological literature: Edwards, Catesby, Wilson, Bonaparte, Audubon, besides numerous other rare old works on natural history. It is doubtful whether any other library in the Middle West or South contains so many priceless first editions as does Transylvania.

JUN 2

After visiting the museum and inspecting the large collection of skins, we drove to Berea, dined at the Daniel Boone Tavern, and then were personally conducted through the college by students of Berea, among them our very valuable ornithologist friend, Johnnie Patten, of Hueysville. In the afternoon Dr. Figgins gave another showing of his moving pictures for the students and faculty of Berea College.

On the evening of November 5, Mr. A. F. Ganier, one of the founders of the Tennessee Ornithological Society and for several years president of the Wilson Ornithological Club, spoke on "Some Rare Birds of Southeastern United States," with slides from his own photographs, made in the Great Smoky Mountains and elsewhere. Mr. Karl Maslowski, of the Department of Conservation, State of Ohio, gave a lecture on "A Naturalist's Diary," illustrated with colored moving pictures of his own making.

The forenoon and early hours of the afternoon of November 6 were spent on a field trip on the Simms estate, some ten miles from Lexington, on the Shady Lane Pike. Some thirty people enjoyed this great outing and studied birds in many parts of this enormous farm. The following thirty-seven species were recorded: Bluebird, Cardinal, Carolina Chickadee, Crow, Brown Creeper, Mourning Dove, Flicker, Purple Finch, Goldfinch, Bronzed Grackle, Sparow Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Blue Jay, Slate-colored Junco, Killdeer, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Meadowlark, Prairie Horned Lark, Mockingbird, Phoebe, Robin, Song Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, English Sparrow, Starling, Tufted Titmouse, Red-eyed Towhee, Palm Warbler, Cedar Waxwing, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Carolina Wren, Black Vulture, and Turkey Vulture.

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A NEW MAGAZINE

Since our last issue, of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER there has appeared an excellent new magazine, KENTUCKY NATURE, of which our former president, Mr. B. C. Bacon, is the editor. The initial number of this quarterly magazine is full of scholarly and highly readable articles on various phases of Kentucky nature: geology, entomology, ornithology, botany, and other sciences. The illustrations are numerous and good; the paper is of fine quality; the format is attractive in every way. The editor told us at the Lexington meeting that already he had on hand enough good material for two additional issues and that there are a thousand paid-up subscribers. There is decidedly a place for such a magazine, and it is the hope of our society that it may grow to be the mouthpiece for all students of nature in the state. The advisory board represents some of the ablest scholars of Kentucky, a group that would recommend any publication to discriminating students of nature.

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER'S FOURTEENTH BIRD CENSUS

This issue of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER is taken up largely with the reports of the fourteenth Christmas bird census. On the very first page of our first issue, January, 1925, there was a paragraph on such censuses calling on all members to take one in 1925. Every year since then we have had a representative number of censuses, which now have permanent value or records. The response at Christmas was good, but we urge more and more of our K. O. S. members to make this an annual event, both for their own sakes and for the value of the records themselves.

Before we consider the censuses taken within the bounds of Kentucky, let us look at three censuses by loyal members elsewhere. James William Hancock, of Madisonville, was visiting at New Orleans during the holidays and sent in this good list:

New Orleans, La. (Audubon Park, city streets, Lake Ponchartrain, Shushan Airport, and open country)—Dec. 29; 7:00 A. M. to 4:45 P. M. Cloudy; wind, southeast, light; temp. 48 at start, 58 at return. About 20 miles on bicycles; observers together. Pied-billed Grebe, 1; Brown Pelican, 40; Double-crested Cormorant, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Killdeer, 57; Wilson's Snipe, 3; Herring Gull, 200; Ring-billed Gull (?), 20; Laughing Gull, 25; Royal Tern, 7; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Phoebe, 5; Tree Swallow, 15; Blue Jay, 3; Crow, 4; Fish Crow, 63; Louisiana Chickadee, 1; Carolina Wren, 1; Mockingbird, 97; Catbird, 1; Robin, 206; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 2; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 5; American Pipit, 90; Cedar Waxwing, 145; Loggerhead Shrike, 11; Starling, 785; Myrtle Warbler, 21; Maryland Yellowthroat, 5; English Sparrow, 270; Meadowlark, 50; Rusty Blackbird, 16; Boat-tailed Grackle, 66; Purple Grackle, 30; Louisiana Cardinal, 5; Towhee, 2. Total, 36 species, 2255 individuals. (Familiarity with the region would probably have resulted in a much better list of species). Other species seen at Talisheek, La., December 23: Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Mourning Dove, Belted Kingfisher, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Tufted Titmouse, Florida Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Winter Wren, Bewick's Wren, Brown Thrasher, Hermit Thrush, Bluebird, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Red-winged Blackbird, Goldfinch, Field Sparrow, and Song Sparrow.

MAURICE GATLIN, JR., New Orleans, La.

JAMES WILLIAM HANCOCK, Madisonville, Ky.

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Our faithful member from the Northern Peninsula of Michigan, Mr. Bryens, was able to get out between severe storms and record the hardy birds that spend the winter there.

McMillan, Luce County, Michigan—Dec. 25; 8:17 A. M. to 12:05 P. M. Snow flurries from start until about 10:00 A. M.; partly cloudy the remainder of the day; temp. 19 to 30; wind, southwest, light; ground covered with an average between eight and ten inches of snow. Observer alone, on skis; about 4½ miles through fields, mostly cut-over land and some woods. 7x Mirakel Glass used. On the trip 83 nests built on upright forks and branches of trees were noticed. Mourning Dove, 11 (a field of buckwheat unharvested, with much yet above the snow, had served as a feeding resort); Northern Pileated Woodpecker, 2; Eastern Hairy Woodpecker, 2 (tattooing); Northern Downy Woodpecker, 2; Northern Blue Jay, 1; Black-capped Chickadee, 10; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1 (heard); Northern Shrike, 1; Starling, 1; English Sparrow, 129; Common Redpoll, 23; Eastern Snow Bunting, 1 (heard) (flock of 250 seen the day before). Total, 12 species, 184 individuals. Cones fairly plentiful on birches; very few or none on evergreens; no beechnuts; very few hard maple seeds.

—OSCAR McKINLEY BRYENS.

Our sister society, the Tennessee Ornithological Society, as usual did well, beating our best state list by fourteen. The Tennessee people know where to find the birds, and, we sometimes believe, the birds come from their hiding places to be counted.

Nashville, Tenn. (Environs, including west, south, and east; River Road, Westmeade, Bellemeade, Warner Parks, Hillsboro and Hobbs Roads, Radnor Lake on 85 acres, Overton Hills, Knapp Farm, Franklin and Hardscuffle Roads)—Dec. 26: 6:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Cloudy; steady rain all day, half inch in all; ground bare; no wind; temp. 40 at start, 45 at mid-day. Observers in 10 groups: Party I, 5 observers, 11 hours, 6 miles; Party II, 3 observers, 4 hours, 2 miles; Party III, 3 observers, 6 hours; Party IV, 1 observer, 3 hours, 2 miles; Party V, 2 observers, 7 hours, 4 miles; Party VI, 2 observers, 3 hours; Party VII, 1 observer, 3 hours, 2 miles; Party VIII, 1 observer, 2 hours, 2 miles; Party IX, 1 observer, 2 hours, 2 miles; Party X, 1 observer, 2 hours, 1 mile. Total, 26 miles afoot, 43 hours. Common Loon, 1 (killed by hunter on a 4-acre pond; one previous Christmas record); Pied-billed Grebe, 1; Great Blue Heron, 1; Common Mallard, 18; Black Duck, 8; Gadwall, 3; Lesser Scaup, 73; American Golden-eye, 3; Old Squaw, 1 (adult male; one previous Christmas record); Black Vulture, 7; Cooper's Hawk, 4; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Marsh Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 24; Bob-white, 76 (6 coveys); Coot, 3; Killdeer, 41; Wilson's Snipe, 6; Mourning Dove, 103 (one flock of 57, another of 22); Screech Owl, 2; Barred Owl, 2; Great Horned Owl, 2; Barn Owl, 1 (first Christmas census record); Belted Kingfisher, 8; Flicker, 33; Pileated Woodpecker, 7; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 28; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 7; Downy Woodpecker, 29; Phoebe, 7; Prairie Horned Lark, 37 (unusually scarce this winter); Blue Jay, 19; Crow, 120; Carolina Chickadee, 94; Tufted Titmouse, 61; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Brown Creeper, 9; Winter Wren, 1; Bewick's Wren, 7; Carolina Wren, 53; Mockingbird, 112; Robin, 33 (scarce because of hackberry crop failure); Hermit Thrush, 8; Bluebird, 90; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 16; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 1 (first Christmas record since 1916); Migrant Shrike, 2; Starling, 6000 (5000 of these at roost in magnolias in city); Myrtle Warbler, 3 (scarce because of failure of poison ivy berry crop); English Sparrow, 150; Meadowlark, 67; Red-winged Blackbird, 3 (first Christmas census record in 9 years); Rusty Blackbird, 100 (one flock); Bronzed Grackle, 425; Cardinal, 370; Purple Finch, 49; Goldfinch, 73; Red-eyed Towhee, 148; Savannah Sparrow, 9; Fox Sparrow, 47; Slate-colored Junco, 850; Field Sparrow, 215; Tree Sparrow, 2 (rare, first Christmas record); Chipping Sparrow, 1 (only one previous Christmas record); White crowned Sparrow, 158; White-throated Sparrow, 220; Swamp Sparrow, 157; Song Sparrow, 90. Total, 69 species, 10,300 individuals. This is the twenty-fifth consecutive census to be sent in from Nashville. On Dec. 25 1 Ruddy Duck and 2 Ring-necked Ducks were seen on Radnor Lake. Other species known to be here: Turkey Vulture, Red-headed Woodpecker, Cedar Waxwing, Red-shouldered Hawk.
—B. H. ABERNATHY, J. B. CALHOUN, ALFRED CLEBSCH, JR., ALBERT F. GANIER, (Compiler), WAYLAND HAYES, CONRAD JAMISON, AMELIA R. LASKEY, ARTHUR McMURRAY, G. R. MAYFIELD, H. C. MONK, C. E. PEARSON, JOHN PRICHARD, M. LEO RIPPY, JR., J. A. ROBINS, VERNON SHARP, JR., J. M. SHAVER, WM. SIMPSON, VAL SOLYOM, JAMIE ROSS TIPPENS, H. S. VAUGHAN, GEORGE B. WOODRING (members of Nashville Chapter, Tennessee Ornithological Society).

Our newly-elected Vice-President, Mr. Fleetwood, of Madisonville, just before he was transferred to Piedmont Wildlife Refuge, Monticello, Georgia, as assistant refuge manager, took this good census at Madisonville:

Madisonville, Ky. (Wilson Woods, lakes at Madisonville and Earlington, Laffoon Trail to Manitou, returning to Madisonville by U. S. Highway 41)—Dec. 20; 7:00 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. Partly cloudy; wind, light, west; temp. 36 at start, 32 at return. Observer alone; total miles on foot, 8; total miles in car, 13; total hours in car 1½. Pied-billed Grebe, 1; Mallard, 4; Pintail, 7; Shoveller, 1; Redhead, 3; Canvasback, 3; Lesser Scaup Duck, 310; American Merganser, 1; Marsh Hawk, 6; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 10; Bob-white, 1; Coot, 3; Killdeer, 6; Mourning Dove, 89; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 3; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Red-headed Woodpecker, 35; Pileated Woodpecker, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 6; Downy Woodpecker, 13; Flicker, 17; Prairie Horned Lark, 3; Blue Jay, 13; Crow, 20; Carolina Chickadee, 13; Tufted Titmouse, 31; White-breasted Nuthatch, 5; Brown Creeper, 2; Carolina Wren, 8; Bewick's Wren, 2; Winter Wren, 1; Mockingbird, 4; Brown Thrasher, 1; Robin, 10; Bluebird, 15; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; Migrant Shrike, 3; Starling, 104; Meadowlark, 81; English Sparrow, 17; Purple Finch, 1; Goldfinch, 8; White-crowned Sparrow, 10; White-throated Sparrow, 33; Tree Sparrow, 127; Field Sparrow, 4; Slate-colored Junco, 60; Song Sparrow, 21; Swamp Sparrow, 12; Red-eyed Towhee, 24; Cardinal, 75. Total, 52 species, 1401 individuals.

—RAYMOND J. FLEETWOOD.

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From Carter County, far in the eastern end of Kentucky, comes this list from an observer of some experience.

Johns Run, Carter County, Ky.—Dec. 23; 8:00 A. M. to 3:00 P. M. Cloudy at start; later, bright sunshine. Wind, north; temp. 36 to 40. About eight miles on foot in wooded and open field areas. Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bob-white, 6; Red-headed Woodpecker, 9; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 5; Blue Jay, 23; Crow, 5; Carolina Chickadee, 26; Tufted Titmouse, 20; White-breasted Nuthatch, 6; Carolina Wren, 4; Bluebird, 22; English Sparow, 18; Cardinal, 15; Goldfinch, 19; Red-eyed Towhee, 2; Slate-colored Junco, 80; Field Sparrow, 51; Song Sparrow, 27. Total, 20 species, 342 individuals.

—ERCEL KOZEE.

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Dr. Frazer, one of our oldest and most faithful members, sent in this census from Marion. He regrets that he was unable to get far away from his car on his observations, but he has sent in an excellent list, anyway.

Marion, Ky. (Largely from a car as I drove around in Crittenden County)—Dec. 25. Light wind; sky clear; ground bare; temp. 40. Black Vulture, 2; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Marsh Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 4; Killdeer, 6; Mourning Dove, 2; Flicker, 2; Pileated Woodpecker, 2; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 4; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 4; Downy Woodpecker, 6; Prairie Horned Lark, 22; Blue Jay 3; Crow, 65; Carolina Chickadee, 14; Tufted Titmouse, 16; Winter Wren, 1; Bewick's Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 6; Mockingbird, 12; Robin, 2; Bluebird, 39; Migrant

Shrike, 2; Cowbird, 4; Starling, 400; Meadowlark, 165; Cardinal, 121; Red-eyed Towhee, 1; Slate-colored Junco, 300; Vesper Sparrow, 4; Field Sparrow, 14; White-crowned Sparrow, 2; White-throated Sparrow, 2; Fox Sparrow, 4; Song Sparrow, 16. Total, 37 species, 1260 individuals.

DR. T. ATCHISON FRAZER.

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Our editor and a friend did a second list for each of them in the Mammoth Cave National Park. The rather limited nature of the terrain made a winter list small, but summer and migration periods bring quite a different story.

Mammoth Cave National Park, Ky.—Dec. 22; 7:40 A. M. to 4:15 P. M. Partly cloudy; ground bare; wind, west, light; temp. 24 at start, 45 at return. Observers together. Territory covered about twelve miles in diameter, with Mammoth Cave at the eastern end. Black Vulture, 2; Northern Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; American Rough-legged Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 3; Bob-white, 3; Northern Flicker, 4; Pileated Woodpecker, 5; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 5; Downy Woodpecker, 12; Blue Jay, 2; Crow, 24; Carolina Chickadee, 56; Tufted Titmouse, 27; White-breasted Nuthatch, 7; Brown Creeper, 1; Winter Wren, 4; Carolina Wren, 4; Mockingbird, 6; Robin, 15; Hermit Thrush, 13; Bluebird, 49; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 19; Starling, 267; Myrtle Warbler, 2; English Sparrow, 45; Cardinal 38; Purple Finch, 5; Goldfinch, 63; Red-eyed Towhee, 15; Savannah Sparrow, 1; Slate-colored Junco, 621; Tree Sparow, 71; Field Sparrow, 19; White-crowned Sparrow, 2; White-throated Sparrow, 31; Fox Sparrow, 2; Swamp Sparrow, 17; Song Sparrow, 43. Total, 38 species, 1504 individuals.

Other species recorded on December 17: Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Migrant Shrike, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Cedar Waxwing, and Ring-necked Pheasant. Phoebe recorded by Dr. L. Y. Lancaster, December 30.

—RUSSELL STARR, GORDON WILSON.

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Major Dodge and his friends, of Lexington, were handicapped by having to take their census in a rain, but they reported this list, anyway:

Lexington, Ky. (Simms, Alexander, and Harris Farms) Dec. 26; 9:06 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. Raining hard all day; wind, east, light; ground bare; temp. 38 to 42. About 4200 acres covered. Auto used over private roads through farms. Cooper's Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 7; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Blue Jay, 1; Crow, 3080 (Crows converging toward a roost were easily counted on the "near" side of the roost, but we were aware that many were coming in on the far side. The latter were not counted, however. The same vicinity last year yielded only thirty Crows); Carolina Chickadee, 7; Tufted Titmouse, 3; Carolina Wren, 2; Starling, 75; English Sparrow, 22; Meadowlark, 16; Cardinal, 1; Savannah Sparrow, 4; Slate-colored Junco, 2; Tree Sparrow, 4; White-crowned Sparow, 13 (4 of these were in immature plumage); White-throated Sparow, 2; Song Sparrow, 6. Total, 19 species, 3249 individuals.

—CHARLES K. MORRELL, ALEX PECK, VICTOR DODGE.

The active Louisville Chapter of the K. O. S., regardless of the rain, found fifty-five species, the record for the state for this season.

Louisville, Ky. (The Ohio River from the Falls to Taylor Creek; Cherokee Park; Indian Hills; the Prospect area; and adjacent territory, by automobile and afoot)—Dec. 26; 7:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Rain all day; wind, northeast, light; temp. 34 at start, 36 at return. Observers in groups as follows: Party I, 2 observers, 35 miles by auto, 4 afoot, 8 hours; Party II, 3 observers, 30 miles by auto, 5 afoot, 8 hours; Party III, 3 observers, 30 miles by auto, 2 afoot, 7 hours; Party IV, 3 observers, 30 miles by auto, 3 afoot, 8 hours. Total miles, 125 by auto, 14 afoot; total hours, 31. Common Loon, 3; Mallard, 150 (est.); Black Duck, 500 (est.); Redhead, 3; Canvasback, 2; Lesser Scaup Duck, 280; American Golden-eye, 7; Bufflehead, 2; White-winged Scoter, 1; Ruddy Duck, 1; Hooded Merganser, 7; American Merganser, 10; Cooper's Hawk, 2; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 24; Coot, 3; Killdeer, 3; Herring Gull, 5; Ring-billed Gull, 1; Mourning Dove, 12; Barred Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 6; Flicker, 4; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 4; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 14; Blue Jay, 11; Crow, 245; Carolina Chickadee, 77; Tufted Titmouse, 91; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Brown Creeper, 9; Carolina Wren, 9; Mockingbird, 19; Robin, 1; Bluebird, 23; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 7; Starling, 12,000 (est.); English Sparrow, 300; Meadowlark, 34; Cowbird, 3; Cardinal, 139; Purple Finch, 15; Goldfinch, 14; Red-eyed Towhee, 2; Slate-colored Junco, 240; Tree Sparrow, 31; Field Sparrow, 16; White-crowned Sparrow, 31; White-throated Sparrow, 18; Swamp Sparrow, 5; Song Sparow, 85. Total, 55 species, 14,516 individuals. Redheads and White-winged Scoters observed by Monroe and Mengel with 25X telescope. The many Starlings roost in the downtown area. Other species seen during the census week: Cedar Waxwing, Migrant Shrike, and Myrtle Warbler.

—LEONARD BRECHER, FLOYD S. CARPENTER, AMY DEANE, JAMES LaFOLLETTE, DR. HARVEY LOVELL, ROBERT MENGEL, BURT L. MONROE, MARIE PEIPER, EVELYN SCHNEIDER, MABEL SLACK, AL MIRAS (Louisville Chapter Kentucky Ornithological Society).

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From Glasgow comes this list by young and active ornithologists:

Glasgow, Ky. (Starr, Darter, Wininger, and surrounding farms; along Darter's Branch and Beaver Creek)—Dec. 20, 8:00 A. M. to 3:30 P. M. Partly cloudy; wind, south and southwest, brisk; ground bare; temp. 38 at start, 54 at return. Observers together; about eight miles on foot. Turkey Vulture, 12; Black Vulture, 5; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Bob-white, 1; Killdeer, 1; Northern Flicker, 8; Pileated Woodpecker, 4; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 7; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 8; Prairie Horned Lark, 3; Blue Jay, 10; Crow, 213; Carolina Chickadee, 49; Tufted Titmouse, 55; Winter Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 16; Mockingbird, 6; Robin, 25; Hermit Thrush, 1; Bluebird, 37; English Sparrow, 12; Starling, 247; Myrtle Warbler, 1; Cardinal, 39; Goldfinch, 34; Purple Finch, 14; Red-eyed Towhee, 21; Slate-colored Junco, 173; Tree Sparrow, 8; Field Sparrow, 8; White-crowned Sparrow, 38; White-throated Sparow, 69; Fox Sparrow, 11 (one albinistic); Swamp Sparrow, 27; Song Sparrow, 64. Total, 36 species, 1244 individuals.

Other species recorded during Christmas week: Broad-winged Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Barred Owl, Screech Owl, Meadowlark, Bronzed Grackle, and Chipping Sparrow.

—RUSSELL STARR, PAUL WININGER.

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The twenty-first consecutive census from Bowling Green, ranked second in number of species. It contains all the land species known to be in the region except the Cedar Waxwing and the three Owls.

Bowling Green, Ky. (Chaney, Covington, and McElroy Farms; along Drake's Creek; mouth of Gasper River)—Dec. 20; 7:00 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. Diameter of area traversed about fifteen miles; observers in two groups. Partly cloudy; ground bare; wind, west, brisk; temp. 31 at start, 40 at return. Common Mallard, 2; Turkey Vulture, 7; Black Vulture, 5; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Marsh Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 15; Bob-white, 41; Killdeer, 1; Mourning Dove, 56; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Northern Flicker, 10; Pileated Woodpecker, 6; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 13; Red-headed Woodpecker, 3; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 5; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 17; Prairie Horned Lark, 20; Blue Jay, 16; Crow, 4500 plus (hundreds observed flying toward their roost); Carolina Chickadee, 51; Tufted Titmouse, 33; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Brown Creeper, 1; Winter Wren, 6; Bewick's Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 29; Mockingbird, 28; Robin, 19; Hermit Thrush, 2; Bluebird, 19; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 8; Migrant Shrike, 1; Starling, 1760; Myrtle Warbler, 1; English Sparrow, 315; Meadowlark, 61; Red-winged Blackbird, 12; Bronzed Grackle, 5; Cardinal 102; Purple Finch, 90; Goldfinch, 44; Red-eyed Towhee, 19; Savannah Sparrow, 10; Slate-colored Junco, 245; Tree Sparrow, 90; Field Sparrow, 97; White-crowned Sparrow, 150; White-throated Sparrow, 140; Fox Sparrow, 4; Swamp Sparrow, 25; Song Sparrow, 41. Total, 54 species, 8135 individuals.

—L. Y. LANCASTER, CHARLES L. TAYLOR, J. R. WHITMER, GORDON WILSON.

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W. M. Walker, Jr., long a faithful member of the K. O. S., sent this list from his old home, Hopkinsville:

Hopkinsville, Ky.—Dec. 31; 11:30 A. M. to 12:30 P. M., 1:30 to 4:45 P. M. Five miles east of Hopkinsville along Little River, through open fields and woodlands; four miles on foot. Clear; ponds and creeks frozen over; ground thawed one or two inches; temp. 43. Turkey Vulture, 6; Bob-white, 1; Dove, 37; Screech Owl, 1; Flicker, 11; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 11; Prairie Horned Lark, 32; Blue Jay, 3; Crow, 228 (one flock of 225); Carolina Chickadee, 48; Tufted Titmouse, 26; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Bewick's Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 14; Mockingbird, 9; Robin, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; Starling, 1; Myrtle Warbler, 7; English Sparrow, 15; Meadowlark, 16; Cardinal, 27; Purple Finch, 70; Goldfinch, 12; Red-eyed Towhee, 20; Slate-colored Junco, 40; Field Sparrow, 42; White-throated Sparrow, 65; Song Sparrow, 16. Total, 31 species, 765 individuals.

—W. M. WALKER, JR.

Hueysville, Ky. (From Bosco (Hueysville) along the bottom lands of Beaver Creek to Midas, Kentucky, and back by way of wooded mountains to starting place)—Dec. 25; 7:30 A. M. to 11:30 A. M. Approximately three and a half miles covered. Clear, light westerly breeze, temp. almost freezing. Mallard, 1; Bob-white, 3; Sharp-shinned Hawk (?), 1; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Screech Owl, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 8; Red-headed Woodpecker, 6; Phoebe, 1; Starling, 15; Red-winged Blackbird, 10; Meadowlark, 12; Goldfinch, 12; English Sparrow, 20; White-throated Sparow, 2; Chipping Sparrow, 2; Field Sparrow, 5; Slate-colored Junco, 10; Song Sparrow, 20; Towhee, 1; Cardinal, 12; Carolina Wren, 12; Winter Wren, 1; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Tufted Titmouse, 8; Carolina Chickadee, 8; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 5; Robin, 1. Total, 28 species, 180 individuals.

—JOHNNIE PATTEN.

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OUR SPRING MEETING

Our annual spring meeting is just around the corner. April 13 and 14 are the dates. Plan right now to be with us. Every year sees an increase in our attendance and interest. We need you and you need us in your study of birds.

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WILSON CLUB FOR 1939

The Wilson Ornithological Club voted at its annual meeting in 1938 to hold its sessions in 1939 at Louisville. This is a distinctive honor to us K .O. S. members and especially to our Louisville chapter. Begin making plans right now for the Friday and Saturday following Thanksgiving next fall, for we want to show these bird students from all over America just how much alive we K. O. S. people really are.

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IN BRIEF—Just before the holidays Professor L. Y. Lancaster, of Bowling Green, saw a Sparrow Hawk with a male Cardinal in its claws; this seems different from most of the notes on this species, for it is said to attack other birds very seldom.

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Our Vice-President, Raymond J. Fleetwood, has recently been appointed assistant refuge manager at Piedmont Wildlife Refuge, Monticello, Georgia. We K. O. S. people wish him much success there and assure him that we will pay him a visit when any of us are down in that part of the state.

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Major Victor K. Dodge, of Lexington, reports to the editor that several Mississippi Song Sparrows have recently been taken there. So far as we know, this is a new record for the state.

The mildness of the winter probably accounts for the large number of rather rare species on our list this Christmas.

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Several people in the state have reported Upland Plovers this last fall migration. Let us hope that protection of this species will make it again common and well known.

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If Mr. Wilson's lake comes up this spring, he is inviting all who can do so to join him for the week-end of April 1 for observations there. Indications in early January are that there will be a lake of some size by that time.

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Since the authorities at the Mammoth Cave National Park are so vitally interested in our study of birds there, we should plan a week-end camp there in Warbler time, say the last of April.

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NORTHERN CRESTED FLYCATCHER NESTING IN MAIL BOX

The nesting of the Northern Crested Flycatcher is commonly associated with woodlands, parks, and orchards, but I found a nest on June 18, 1938, on the T. E. Conrey farm, near Elizabethtown, that did not fall into either of the ordinary types. This particular pair of flycatchers had built a nest in a discarded mail box which had been placed on a post by Mr. Conrey as a possible nesting box. The box was five and a half feet from the ground and eighty feet from the house. There are not more than four shade trees in the yard. The nest contained five fledglings and the usual snake skin at the entrance.

—RAYMON J. FLEETWOOD, Biologist, Madisonville.

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UPLAND PLOVERS AT BOWLING GREEN

Late in July of 1938 Dr. Fred Mutchler, state representative of D. C. Heath and Company, told me that he had some interesting shore birds on his farm, six miles south of Bowling Green. As soon as I had a chance, I went to the farm with Dr. Mutchler's son and explored the alfalfa fields where the birds had been seen. We were not long in finding two, and we soon flushed others. All told, on the afternoon of August 2, we found ten Upland Plovers. Dr. Mutchler and his tenants report that the birds remained on the farm all the month of August. I regret that I was never able to visit it again while they were there. Before this record I had found the species only one season, on the McElroy farm on April 10 and 11, 1937, when Floyd S. Carpenter, of Louisville, was visiting my temporary lake with me.

—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green.

WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB COMES TO LOUISVILLE

At Ann Arbor, Michigan, last November the Council of the Wilson Ornithological Club voted to bring the 1939 meeting to Louisville. This is the first time our state has been honored by such a distinguished organization of bird students, and it is up to the Kentucky Ornithological Society and the C. W. Beckham Bird Club, the Louisville Chapter of the K. O. S., to be perfect hosts. A great many members of the Wilson Club have already expressed their keen anticipation of the forthcoming visit to the Bluegrass State.

For the benefit of the K. O. S. members who might not be familiar with the Wilson Club, we cannot do any better than quote from the excellent editorial about it which appeared in the November-December, 1938, issue of BIRD-LORE:

"Founded December 3, 1888, the Wilson Club has grown in enrollment until, today, it has more than 900 members. Its journal, THE WILSON BULLETIN, has published some of the most important results of research by American students of birds.

"The club was originally a chapter of the Agassiz Association and after fourteen years became an independent body. Its first official organ, THE CURLEW, was founded in 1888; after several changes of name, the present one was adopted in 1894. The first regular meeting of the club was held in Chicago, in 1914, and since that year meetings have taken place annually, with one exception. Through the years these meetings have come to have increasing importance; they now attract, from many parts of the country, outstanding ornithologists to report and discuss their scientific accomplishments. The programs of the meetings compare very favorably with any ornithological programs in this country and abroad."

Wilson Club members are eager to experience the famous Kentucky hospitality, and it is the duty of every K. O. S. member to see that they receive it. Mrs. Margaret M. Nice, of Chicago, Illinois, President of the Wilson Club, has appointed Burt L. Monroe, President of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, as local chairman for the 1939 Louisville meeting. The dates are December 1 and 2, the Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving Day. Cooperation will be necessary, and we suggest that you contact the local chairman, even at this early date, with suggestions for entertainment, exhibits, field trips, points of interest to be visited, and so on.

Readers of the KENTUCKY WARBLER, who take more than a passing interest in birds, would do well to join the Wilson Club. Its members derive more than a little pleasure from the organization, increase their knowledge of birds, and help to swell the ranks and influence of an entirely admirable organization. One gracious way the K. O. S. members can show their appreciation for our

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Publication of the Kentucky Ornithological Society

Issued for the Seasons

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having the 1939 meeting is to join the Wilson Club now. Let's make the Kentucky delegation of members the largest that any host state has ever shown. Let's begin nearly a year ahead with Southern hospitality and an eagerness to be "one of them."

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THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

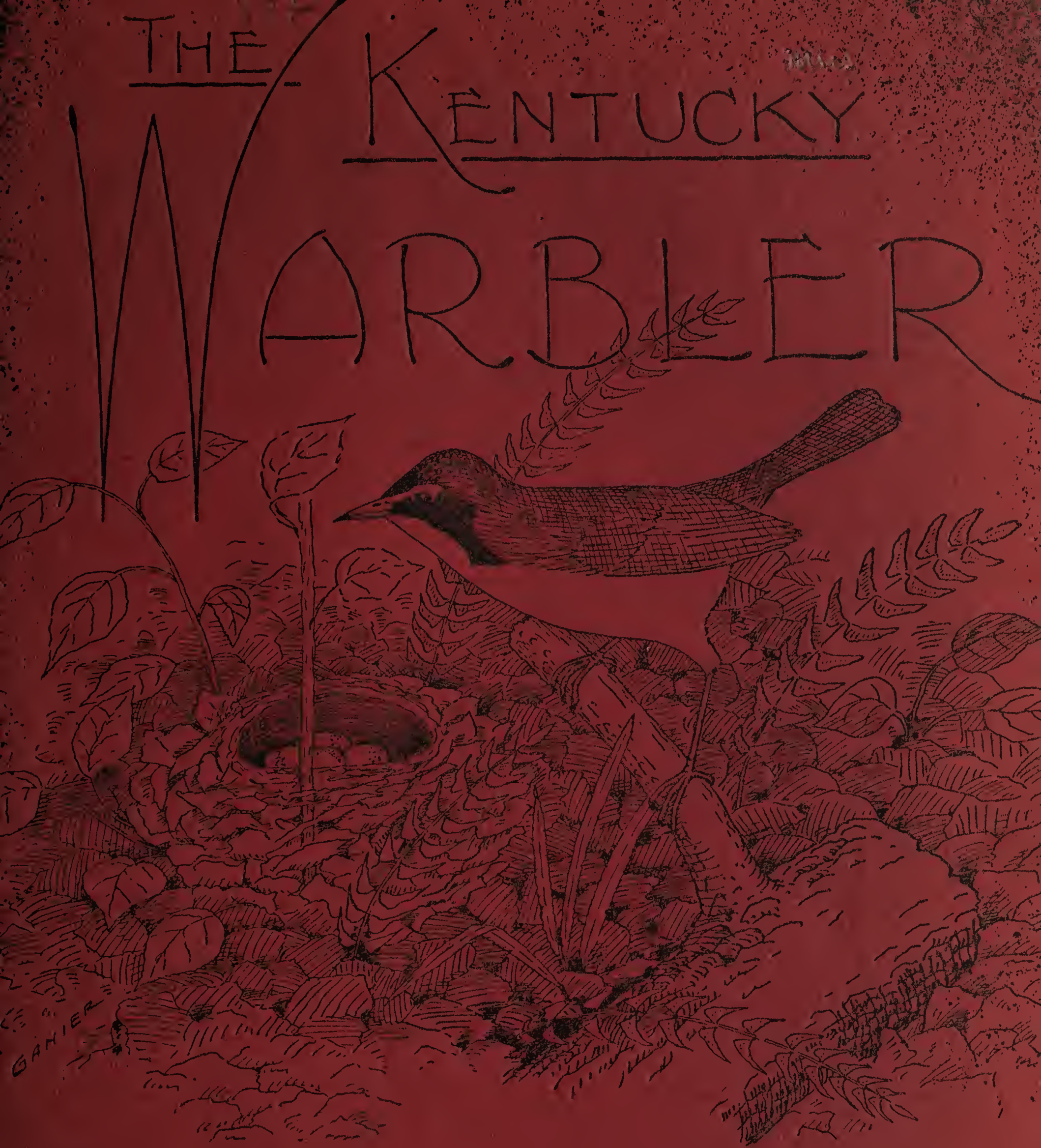
Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therefore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Virgil D. King, Secretary-Treasurer, 2324 Bonnycastle Ave., Louisville, Ky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in the Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Teachers College, Bowling Green, Ky.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER



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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull and the true

from the false is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Volume XV SPRING 1939 No. 2

ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

The sixteenth annual spring meeting of the K. O. S. was held in Louisville, on the afternoon of April 13 and 14. The sessions were held in the Red Room of the Seelbach Hotel.

In the absence of both the president and vice-president the Thursday session was called to order at 2:30 o'clock by the secretary-treasurer, Virgil D. King. Miss Emilie Yunker, Supervisor of Nature Study and Gardening, Louisville City Schools, introduced the first part of the program, namely: "Meeting of the Bird Club." The sixth grade pupils of the Victor H. Engelhard School of Louisville under the able direction of their teacher, Miss Mary V. Witt, presented one of the regular monthly meetings of their bird club. The children conducted their meeting in such a delightful and effective manner that everyone present complimented their poise and enjoyed their contribution.

Miss Evelyn J. Schneider, of Louisville, presented motion pictures of "The Eider Duck" and "Birds of Bonaventure Island." Miss Schneider told how the female Eider Duck plucks the precious down from her breast in building her nest and in making a warm cover with which to protect her eggs (usually five) from the cold while she is feeding. The production of eider-down was pointed out as a growing and valuable industry of certain sections of Canada. She also related interesting experiences which she had during a visit to the Gaspe Peninsula and Bonaventure Island, as well as to describe the color and habits of gannets, puffins, and other birds shown in the pictures. Her comments were given in such a pleasing manner that the pictures were thoroughly enjoyed by all those present.

Speaking on "Wildlife Conservation in Kentucky," Tom Wallace, editor of **The Louisville Times**, branded the "mere study" of birds as "anemic." "Rather," he said, "we should take a general interest in the legislative aspects of various branches of conservation which affect birds." He deplored the poor management of Kentucky's State Parks and pointed to laxity in enforcement of the Audubon law protecting non-game birds, particularly that part of it which protects hawks and owls.

Miss Emilie Yunker distributed colorful bird sticks made by the pupils of Grade 6A of the Brandeis and Tingley Schools of Louisville, under the direction of Misses Amy F. Healine and Hattie J. Reis. An attractive exhibit of bird houses and feeding boxes was of special interest. These were built by the 5B pupils of the Hazelwood School under the direction of Miss Mattie Pirtle.

JUN 9 '44

Dr. Gordon Wilson, of Bowling Green, presided at the Friday session. During the business session those present were asked to express their opinions as to whether we should have a fall meeting or should simply concentrate on the Wilson Club meeting, which will be held in Louisville on December 1 and 2. Every member who expressed an opinion favored our having the annual fall meeting.

Misses Shirley Durham and Hazel Kinslow presented an invitation from Paducah for the fall meeting. This invitation will be seriously considered by the officers and councillors, and the date and place of the fall meeting will be announced in the summer issue of **The Kentucky Warbler.**

In response to Tom Wallace's suggestion that the K. O. S. should make a concerted effort to promote bird protection in Kentucky, a legislative committee was appointed. The members of the committee are: Leonard C. Brecher, Louisville; Major Victor Dodge, Lexington, Chairman; and Dr. T. Atchison Frazer, Marion.

James B. Young, of Louisville, gave a very interesting talk on "Bird Banding." Mr. Young described the beginning and growth of bird banding in this country and the types of traps and bait used. He said that a water drip is the very best type of bait that can be used during the summer, as it has a universal appeal to bird life. He pointed out the necessity of the bander being able to identify positively the birds banded, or his records will be useless. In relating experiences he had with "repeaters", he pointed out in a very convincing manner how gratifying the bird banding hobby is.

Fred M. Mutchler, of Bowling Green and Louisville, spoke on the "Summer Birds of the Dry Tortugas." Mr. Mutchler was sent to the Tortugas by the Bureau of Biological Survey to check on the number of Sooty Terns nesting there in 1935. He concluded there were about 13,000. He gave a very interesting and informative talk on the feeding, mating, and nesting habits of the Sooty and Noddy Terns, as well as to mention other interesting forms of life which he observed while there.

Floyd S. Carpenter, of Louisville, showed natural-color slides, which he made during the past summer, as he spoke on "Bird Observations along the Chesapeake Bay." The slides included not only birds but also attractive views of Mt. Vernon, the Potomac River, a rainbow, and other objects of interest. All those present were highly pleased with Mr. Carpenter's witty and humorous remarks, which he so cleverly wove into his talk.

—VIRGIL D. KING, Secretary-Treasurer

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BANDING OF BIRDS

By JAMES BOSWELL YOUNG

The history of bird banding reaches far back into antiquity, and there are isolated reports of the banding of birds in ancient times before Christ. However, in so far as America is concerned it is both fitting and proper that the first man to do this work in this country should be Audubon, and those of you who have read the story of his life, know that in Pennsylvania he banded a brood of phoebes and that he was rewarded for his efforts by the return, the next season, of two of his banded birds.

In December, 1909, there was formed in this country an organization known as the American Bird Banding Association, and this organization—developing a method of systematic trapping of birds—demonstrated fully the possibility of extensive banding operations. Realizing that the information obtained from the work would be of unquestionable value in the administration of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of July, 1918, the Biological Survey, which is a division of the Department of Agriculture, took over the work of the American Bird Banding Association.

Today there are 2,193 voluntary cooperators working under the supervision of the Bureau of Biological Survey, gratis, who have, up to the present time, banded 3,000,000 birds. These operators are scattered throughout the United States and Canada.

Of course, it must be perfectly obvious to all of you that the fundamental effort on the part of every bird bander is to capture, band, and release an uninjured bird. If the bird is injured in any way, during the process, the record is of no value, because the subsequent history of an injured bird gives us no indication of how a perfectly normal bird would act, and that is what the Government really wants to know.

Therefore, every precaution is taken to insure the safety of the birds, and in the time within which I have been banding I have yet to experience a serious tragedy of any sort.

The banding itself is done with an aluminum band of varying sizes, depending on the size of the bird, on each of which there is a number which is different from any other number on any other bird. On the inside of the band is printed "Notify Biological Survey, Washington, D. C." These bands are furnished free to all cooperators and are placed on the tarsus or leg of the bird taken. At the present time we are instructed to band every species of bird with the exception of the English Sparrow.

There are many methods of trapping birds. At the outset you must accustom the birds to coming to your trapping station by the use of food and shelter. Once you have established such a station, there are various sorts of traps used. It is the hope of every bander that he may find one type of trap that will be the perfect trap and take all kinds of birds under all conditions. However, such is not the case, and most cooperators use a variety of traps.

One of the simplest and incidentally most successful of all traps is known as the Drop Trap, or the Pull String Trap, which is nothing more or less than a wire box, one end of which has been raised and propped by a stick, to which is attached a string which is held by the operator, who is hidden from view. Food is placed under the trap, and as the birds hop under it to eat, the string is pulled, and the trap falls, thus imprisoning them.

Another successful type of trap is called the Sparrow Trap, which is worked on the same principle as a wire rat trap or lobster pot is built, to wit, an inverted funnel, into which the birds, having entered, find it difficult to extract themselves. One of the most popular types of traps is known as the Potter Trap, named for Miss Jessica A. Potter. This type of trap is merely a small cage with a door that slides up and down precisely like the door of some canary cages. There is a small platform to which is attached an arm. This arm, in turn, holds the door open. When the bird hops upon the platform, the support is removed, and the door falls. I say this is one of the most satisfactory traps because once the bird is imprisoned, it has no way of escape. This type of trap may be used as a single cell or many cells together.

It has been found from experience that certain birds will enter a trap only from the top. This is particularly true of the Warbler group. Chickadees and Titmice likewise seem to prefer this type of entrance. So there has been developed a type of trap known as the Chardonneret. With this type, the door, or entrance, is on the top of the trap and is held in place by a spring. A small trigger is attached to the end of the door, and when the door is opened, this trigger is braced by a horizontal rod, which serves as a perch and which is hinged. When the bird hops down on the perch, its weight pushes the perch downward, thus releasing the spring, and the door springs shut.

Another type of trap involving the same principle is known as the Cohasset Trap, which is nothing more or less than a funnel down which the bird hops into the wire enclosure. When it attempts to get out, it follows the edge of the trap and does not come back to the center and fly upward, which is the only way that it can escape.

There are many types of bait used. In fact, I know of no kind of food ordinarily eaten by birds that cannot be used at some season of the year. In the winter a mixture of hemp seed, cracked corn, millet, and sunflower seed is good. Sunflower seed attracts the Cardinal; the millet attracts Juncos and all of the Sparrows. Bread will attract Mockingbirds and, in the early spring, Robins. Suet is ideal for Chickadees, Titmice, and Woodpeckers. In the summer time the finest of all baits for all types of birds is water. A small pool into which there is a slow drip of water is excellent. Robins, Catbirds, and Brown Thrashers cannot resist the lure of the shower bath, and, so far as known, water is the only universal means by which Warblers can be attracted. From my own personal experience I have taken proportionately more birds from a trap using water as bait than all the rest of my traps put together.

All of the methods of trapping which I have heretofore mentioned can be used in connection with water, and it affords a universal appeal to all species of birds.

As to the qualifications of the cooperator himself, it is obvious that he must be sufficiently qualified in ornithology to recognize and distinguish the type of bird he has caught. If he cannot do this, his records are worse than useless and lead only to confusion.

Perhaps to some of you this may sound like over-emphasis—that identification of a bird in the hand is simple—but there are times when the positive identificaton of birds, even in the hand, is a very difficult matter. I refer especially to the Warblers in fall plumage, and I have spent many interesting hours trying to identify positively a Warbler whose back is dull green, whose breast is light yellow, and which has or has not a line over the eye, depending on the way you look at the bird. Is it a Tennessee, Nashville, or Orange-crowned? Adult or juvenal?

Likewise a cooperator must have sufficient time to devote to this work. He must not leave birds imprisoned for an undue length of time, and he must always be watchful less a stray cat or other predatory animal get at the imprisoned bird.

But there is no pastime that I know of that is more interesting, worthwhile, or diverting, particularly at this time of year, when almost any type of migrating bird can be found in the traps.

What is the result of this effect, and what worthwhile information has been obtained?

On this subject alone one could talk for hours, but I think that if I give you a few specific examples, perhaps you may be able to judge for yourself whether a worthwhile knowledge of our bird life is being gained.

For instance, we know that a Mallard duck may live at least 15 years, for Dr. Lincoln, who is the present head of the Biological Survey, banded one in November, 1922, and it was shot some few miles from where it was banded in November, 1937.

From banding we have learned that the Marsh Hawk is quite a traveler, for one banded in June, 1937, in Minneapolis was killed near Havanna, Cuba, in 1938.

There is a record of a Red-tailed Hawk which was banded in June, 1924, at Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, which was killed in Louisiana 14 years later.

An Osprey banded in June, 1936, on Long Island was found dead a year later in Brazil.

We know the Chimney Swifts live at least 11 years, for one banded at Thomasville, Georgia, in 1927 was caught in Quebec in 1938.

There is a record of a Lesser Yellowlegs banded in Cape Cod in August 28, 1935, which was killed September 3, 1935, in Martinique, French West Indies. This distance is more than 1900 miles and indicates a traveling speed of more than 300 miles a day.

Banding has disclosed a certain east-west or west-east movement of migrating birds, which, before the era of banding, was not suspected. For instance, a Cliff Swallow banded on June 14, 1937, in South Dakota was captured in July, 1937, in West Virginia.

Perhaps you are wondering about my own experience in banding and my own records. I think the greatest reward that comes to a bird bander is the return of birds to his station after the space of a year, or two years, or even five years. Of course, the longer one traps, the more birds that he bands, the more returns he is sure to receive. I do not want to bore you with too many dates, but I would like to tell you of two interesting birds.

The first of these is a Robin, which I banded one cold, snowy fourteenth of March, in 1937, at 11:00 o'clock in the morning. My pull string trap that I have heretofore described to you is so situated that it can be operated from my kitchen window, and on that particular day the trap was baited with bread. My good friend, this particular Robin, was extremely hungry, and he entered the trap without hesitancy. So hungry, in fact, that although the trap had fallen over him, he continued to eat. As soon as he became aware of his imprisonment, I went out, caught him, and banded him with number 37-221, 802. Apparently the trap did not disturb him very much because at 5:15 on the same day I caught him again in the same trap.

May I say at this point that there are too many records of repeating birds to allow even a conjecture that trapping frightens birds away. On the contrary, repeating birds are so common in all stations that a phrase has been used to describe them. They are known to have acquired the "trap habit," and it is not uncommon to catch a bird 15 times within the space of 45 days. This type of bird learns that there is plenty of good and no harm in the trap, and he has not the silghtest hesitancy in entering. This is particularly true of Titmice and Chickadees, and after a while these birds become more or less a nuisance because they continually trip the trap and occupy it, so that other unbanded birds cannot enter.

But back to the Robin. That was the last I saw of this gentleman until the twenty-fifth day of February, 1938, one year later, when I again caught him. No mistaking it, because there was the band on his leg. After a whole winter of vacationing in the south, he was nice and plump and full matured, and my catching him didn't seem to bother him very much.

I heard no more of him until St. Patrick's Day of this year, and there he was in the same trap as fit as ever. You may rest assured that I look forward with considerable pleasure to seeing him again in 1940.

I should like also to tell you of a Mockingbird who has my utmost respect and also the undisputed freedom of my yard. This gentleman was banded by me on New Year's Eve Day, 1936, at 9:00 o'clock in the morning. His number is 37-210,380. He repeated on the third day of January, 1937, and the tenth day of January.

Perhaps those of you who have read Mrs. Lasky's splendid articles on the Mockingbird know that they have a most interesting habit of "defending a certain territory." This means that a certain Mockingbird will decide that he is the owner of a certain well-defined area, and woe be to any other Mockingbird that enters. This is particularly true in the spring when he is waiting for a mate, and during that period Robins are the particular source of his displeasure, and he has no hesitancy in chasing them beyond his boundary lines.

This particular gentleman seemed to select my back yard as part of his domain, and woe be to any Robin that alighted therein. This was not particularly pleasing to me, because it was the time of year that Robins can be trapped rather easily, and so I decided to deport my good friend, the Mockingbird. On the sixth day of February, 1937, I caught him at 9:30 in the morning and took him to Hikes Lane and Bardstown Road, which was about three miles from my home and released him.

It is my honest belief that he got home before I did, for there he was ruling the roost as usual. So on the ninth day of February, 1937, I caught him again and took him six miles from home and released him. On March 5, 1937, he was back. I figured that such persistence should be rewarded; so I did without the Robins, and he policed my back yard all that spring. That was the last I heard of this gentleman, and, as his most ardent admirer, I regreted his disappearance. Much to my surprise, on the fifth day of February, this year, I caught him again, and he was now back at the old stand when last I saw him, still giving the Robins the very devil.

There are many interesting problems regarding banding that I hope some day to solve. It has been my pleasure to band a considerable number of Cardinals, and I have received many returns from these bands, both at my own station and from persons who have found these birds—most of which have met with the tragedy of cats and automobiles. There is a certain winter shifting of Cardinal population, and some day I hope to know more about it. How long do these birds live, how often do they return, and how far do they go on their winter wanderings? These are some of the many problems.

I believe that the winter home of the Chimney Swift, which still remains a great puzzle to ornithology, will be found through banding. The Tennessee Ornithology Society, working with Mr. Ben Coffee, Mrs. Laskey, and others, have banded thousands of Chimney Swifts during the fall migration. Some day soon,—perhaps sooner than we think—some missionary in the wilds of South America may be handed one of these bands from a native, and then the first definite clue as to the winter quarters of these interesting birds will be known. I am planning to do some Swift banding myself this fall, and I hope it will be my band that he finds.

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ANNUAL FIELD DAY AT McELROY FARM, APRIL 1 and 2, 1939

Last year, when twenty-one Kentuckians and Tennesseans visited the McElroy Farm, on March 26 and 27, it was decided to make this journey an annual event, the date to be determined by Mr. Wilson. Some weeks after Christmas, 1938, the dates were set for April 1 and 2, 1939, and invitations were sent out to all chapters of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, the Tennessee Ornithological Society, and the southern chapters of the Indiana Aubudon Society. A total of forty-six people visited the farm on one or both days, thirty-three of them coming from a distance. A total of 100 species of birds was listed, 41 of these being water birds. The lake was at that time a little over 300 acres in extent, many times larger than it was at the same time in 1938 and about the same size as in late April, 1937.

Those who arrived on April 1 ate dinner together at the Helm Hotel in the evening and then visited the Kentucky collection at Western Teachers College, especially to see the stuffed specimens that have been done by Ottis Willoughby of Warren County. The next morning they returned to the lake and were joined by a crowd almost at large. The party visited the similar lake on the Chaney Farm in the early afternoon and broke up about 3:30.

The following people visited the McElroy Farm on this occasion: Indianapolis: Mr. Samuel E. Perkins, III; Misses Elizabeth Taft, Katherine Graves, and Ruby Wolfe; Nashville: Messrs. A. F. Ganier, Leo Rippy, Jr., James A. Robins, George R. Mayfield, and Paul K. Bryant; Mrs. Paul K. Bryant and Miss Elaine Woodward; Clarksville: Messrs. Alfred Clebsch, Alfred Clebsch, Jr., Charles E. Pickering, and Buddy Collier; Miss Katherine Pickering; Glasgow: Messrs. Russell Starr, Everett Frei, Cal Rogers, Leonard Rogers, and Clayton Gooden; Mrs. Everett Frei; Marion: Messrs. C. A. Hollowell, O. M. Shelby, T. Atchison Frazer, and R. J. Hardesty; Louisville: Messrs. Burt L. Monroe, Bobby Mengel, Virgil King, and James Lafollette; Misses Mabel Slack, Evelyn Schneider, Audrey Wright, and Marie Peiper; Cloverport: Floyd Carter; Rich Pond: William Jameson; Hardinsburg: Joe M. Robertson; Calhoun: Felix Perrin; Bowling Green: Messrs. Gordon Wilson, L. Y. Lancaster, Ottis Willoughby, Jo Allen Bryant, Hayward Brown, J. R. Whitmer, Ed. Diddle, and Kelly Thompson.

Here is a list of the 100 species of birds recorded in the two days, with numbers, chiefly for April 2: Loon, 2; Holboell's Grebe, 2; Horned Grebe, 2; Pied-billed Grebe, 5 plus; Double-crested Cormorant, 1; Great Blue Heron, 1; Green Heron, 1; Black-crowned Night Heron, 45; Yellow-crowned Night Heron, 4; Bittern, 5; Canada Goose, 4; Mallard, C; Red-legged Black Duck, C; Gadwall 1; (a new record for the farm) Baldpate, C; Pintail, 25; Green-winged Teal, 10; Blue-winged Teal, A; Shoveler, C; Wood Duck, 4; Redhead, F. C.; Ring-necked Duck, A; Canvas-back, 1; Greater Scaup, 1 (tentatively identified late in the afternoon by Miss Slack and Dr. Lancaster and positively the next morning by Clebsch and Ganier; this is a new record for the farm); Lesser Scaup, A; Golden-eye, 4; Buffle-head, 5; Ruddy Duck, 1; Hooded Merganser, 4; American Merganser, 1; Red-breasted Merganser, A on April 1 but only 4 or 5 on April 2; Turkey Vulture, 4; Black Vulture, 4; Cooper's Hawk, 1 (nest); Marsh Hawk, 2; Osprey, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bob-white, 10; Coot, A (probably 2500); Killdeer, C; Wilson's Snipe, C; Upland Plover, 2 April 1; Solitary Sandpiper, 1 April 1; Western Willet, 1; Greater Yellow-legs, 8; Lesser Yellow-legs, 5; Ring-billed Gull, 2 on April 1; Common Tern, 2 on April 1; Mourning Dove, C; Chimney Swift, 2; Belted Kingfisher, 1; Flicker, 4; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 3; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Phoebe, 2; Prairie Horned Lark, C; Tree Swallow, 4 on April 1; Barn Swallow, 1 on April 2; Purple Martin, 2; Blue Jay, F. C.; Crow, C; Carolina Chickadee, F. C.; Tufted Titmouse, 5; Brown Creeper, 1; House Wren, 1 (the first record for the farm and one of the few for Bowling Green); Bewick's Wren, 4; Carolina Wren, C; Mockingbird, C; Brown Thrasher, F. C.; Robin, C; Hermit Thrush, 4; Bluebird, C; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 5; American Pipit, F. C.; Migrant Shrike, 1; Starling, A; Myrtle Warbler, 5; Louisiana Water-thrush, 1; English Sparrow, A.; Meadowlark, C; Red-winged Blackbird, A; Bronzed Grackle, A; Cowbird, 1; Cardinal, C; Purple Finch, 5; Goldfinch, C; Towhee, 4; Savannah Sparrow, C; Vesper Sparrow, C; Slate-colored Junco, C; Chipping Sparrow, C; Field Sparow, C; White-crowned Sparrow, A; White-throated Sparrow, C; Fox Sparrow, 2; Swamp Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, C.

—GORDON WILSON,Tabulator.

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WINTER RECORDS OF THE PHOEBE AND THE BROWN THRASHER IN KENTUCKY

By HARVEY B. LOVELL, University of Louisville

On January 31, 1939, I saw an Eastern Phoebe in Indian Hills, near Louisville. The bird was perched in a low bush on the edge of an overflowed swamp and was observed for several minutes at close range. When I consulted Burt Monroe's records, I found that the average date for the arrival of the Phoebe is March 10, and the earliest previous record was March 3.

The following data have been assembled to determine how far north of its usual winter range the present Phoebe was. A. F. Ganier informs me that the Phoebe is "a very rare winter resident in central Tennessee," but that it is usually reported in their Christmas census, seven being the number for 1938. For southern Kentucky Gordon Wilson reports that his earliest record until the present winter was January 9, 1932. Dr. L. Y. Lancaster found the Phoebe on December 21, 1938, the day after the Bowling Green census, and at the edge of the Mammoth Cave National Park on December 30, 1938. It seems, therefore, that the Phoebe should be included among the rarer winter residents of the state, especially in the southern portion.

On February 5, 1939, I observed a Brown Thrasher in my yard in Jefferson County, near Louisville. The bird seemed to be quite at home and ran under the shrubbery or flew from tree to tree while being observed from a distance of not over twelve feet. The bird has been seen repeatedly throughout the month of February and gives every indication of having returned for the summer. From Monroe's records I learned that the average date of arrival for the Brown Thrasher is March 15, and the previous early record was March 6.

The following data have been assembled concerning the winter range of the Brown Thrasher. A. F. Ganier writes that the bird is not a winter resident in central Tennessee and that his earliest records for Nashville over a period of twenty years are February 14, 14, 26; March 1, 1, 2, 4, 5, 5, 6, 6, 7, 7, and 9. Leaving out the first two out-of-line dates, we find the average to be March 4. Ganier reports, however, that the Brown Thrasher usually winters in western Tennessee and also along the Georgia line.

Gordon Wilson's earliest record for Bowling Green is March 5, a date which has been repeated several times.

There are at least four records of the Brown Thrasher in Kentucky in December. Dr. T. Atchison Frazer reported the species in his Christmas census for December 24, 1933, at Marion, and Raymond J. Fleetwood saw it at Madisonville on December 20, 1938. Virgil King informs me that he identified the bird beyond doubt in Henderson County on December 31, 1938, and L. Y. Lancaster saw it in Bowling Green during the 1938 Christmas holidays. Three of these records are in the western part of Kentucky near the boundary of the Lower Austral Zone.

There are also numerous records of the Brown Thrasher's wintering to the north of Kentucky. Josselyn Van Tyne says that the Brown Thrasher is a rare winter resident of the southern two tiers of counties in Michigan (**check list of the birds of Michigan**), and Dr. Frank Chapman in his HANDBOOK OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS says that it winters along the seaboard as far north as New York City.

In view of these records it is surprising that the Brown Thrasher has not been reported in Kentucky during the month of January prior to 1939. It is highly probable that it will be found to winter in the western part of the state regularly and that accidentals will continue to be found in other parts of the state.

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BIRDS AROUND A HOSPITAL—Chastain Frazer, the youngest son of the grand old man of our K. O. S., suffered a break-down in health some months ago and is sojourning at Hazelwood Sanitarium. "You can't keep a good man down," especially an ornithologist of such enthusiasm as Chastain. Even if he cannot get out very far to see the birds, they seem to come to see him. In a recent letter he says, "There is nothing unusual about the species I have observed, although to me the beauty and poise of the Fox Sparrow are unusual. Perhaps this observation is due to the fact that I never took the time before to really see it. I am quite sure I have failed to identify several of the smaller birds. The ones I have identified are the following: White-crowned Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, Slate-colored Junco, Red-eyed Towhee, Cardinal, Carolina Wren, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Flicker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Blue Jay, Bluebird, Robin, Mockingbird, Meadowlark, Cedar Waxwing, Bronzed Grackle, Bob-white, Killdeer, Starling, Crow, Mourning Dove, Sparrow Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Screech Owl, Turkey Vulture, Canada Goose."

All of us wish for Chastain a speedy recovery and plenty of experiences with the birds that he has always known and loved so well.

* * * * * *

GOOD WORK BY GAME WARDENS—Major Victor Dodge, of Lexington, has sent us some clippings relative to a rather wholesale conviction of men in central Kentucky for shooting doves in 1937 in baited fields. More than 25 people were fined $50 each for this offense, one of them a circuit judge. On December 29 a prominent city official in Fayette County was arraigned for shooting a Golden Eagle, but the case was dismissed in Magistrate's Court.

Mr. B. J. Stewart, game warden for the Bowling Green area, is very watchful and has arrested several violators in the past year. He is guarding with real zest the temporary lakes in Warren County, the haunt this year, as usual, of so many water birds.

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A MORNING IN AUDUBON MEMORIAL PARK—On March 25, 1939, with a temperature of 80 reigning everywhere, I set out to see what I could find in Audubon Memorial Park, near Henderson. From nine o'clock until noon I climbed over the big hills, which are rather heavily wooded. There are few border and open areas in the park. The four-acre lake which was built solely for the use of wild life had no water birds on it. The most interesting observation concerned a Carolina Chickadee busily engaged in excavating a nesting cavity in an ash snag. The snag was about eight inches in diameter, and the hole was about fifteen feet from the ground. One bird did all the work, but its mate gave moral support from nearby branches and occasionally flew to the snag to inspect the work. All of the dozens of pieces of waste material taken from the hole were carried to nearby branches and then dropped to the ground. While I watched, a Downy Woodpecker flew to the snag and started toward the hole, which it may have begun for its own use. The alarmed Chickadee vigorously attacked the Downy and drove it away.

Near the borders of the park were found a Brown Thrasher, a Mockingbird, a Bewick's Wren, two pairs of Doves, four White-crowned Sparrows, several Field Sparrows, several Juncoes, four Towhees, and a Phoebe. Deeper in the woods I found six Fox Sparrows, a Hermit Thrush, three Cowbirds in the tall treetops, a Flicker, two Myrtle Warblers, a few Golden-crowned Kinglets, some Chickadees and Cardinals. Tufted Titmice were abundant. A few Crows were seen flying over, and three Turkey Vultures sailed overhead. I inspected the hollow trunk of a big tulip tree in which Vultures have nested in the past, but there was no nest. There were a few Downy Woodpeckers and Carolina Wrens here in the deep woods.

Many of the hillsides were carpeted with wild flowers, and I often met the sweet fragrance of the blooming spice bush. The wild flowers I found blooming were yellow adder's tongue, bloodroot, toothworth, Dutchman's breeches, purple violet, downy yellow violet, harbinger-of-spring, sesile trillum, wood anemone, and sweet williams.

—VIRGIL KING, Louisville.

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THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY OF ORNITHOLOGY—Some weeks ago the Kentucky Ornithological Society and the Virginia Society of Ornithology agreed to mention the work of the neighboring states and their ornithologists. It is a pleasure for THE KENTUCKY WARBLER to call attention in this issue to the Virginia society. It was organized in December, 1929, and except for one unusual year has had a slow but steady growth to its present membership of about 70. The monthly bulletin, THE RAVEN, edited by Dr. J. J. Murray, of Lexington, keeps members in touch with bird activities over the state. Acquaintance with birds of different parts of the state is gained by holding the annual meeting and accompanying field trip near the shore, in the mountains, or in the piedmont. Membership is open to any one interested in birds, whether a resident of Virginia or not. Miss Florence Hague, of Sweet Briar, is the secretary of the Virginia Society of Ornithology.

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A RECORD OF THE HENSLOW SPARROW—On Sunday afternoon, March 26, 1939, about 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon, I was working through some open, brushy hillsides at South Park, Kentucky, which is fourteen miles south of Louisville. I had come upon some Field Sparrows, and hearing a new note among them, I carefully examined them with my glasses. I found that two of the sparrows were Henslow's (**Passerherbulus henslowi susurrans.**) They were feeding on the ground, where I watched them for several minutes with 8X40 glasses at a distance of forty feet. The olive-colored head with black stripes, the very noticeable reddish or chestnut wings, and the finely-streaked breast were all plainly noticed. These markings made the identification positive. I was fortunate enough to have these birds pose in a relatively clear space, free from blackberry bushes and the broom sedge which covered most of the area. It is quite possible that there were more of them in the flock of sparrows in the immediate neighborhood. This location was about a hundred yards from a small, marshy lake.

—LEONARD C. BRECHER, Louisville.

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OUR BIRDS OF PREY

Among all birds there are none more fascinating or more certain to arouse the interest and admiration of those who know them than the birds of prey—the hawks, eagles and owls. Their graceful build and beautiful plumage, in spite of the absence of bright colors, their wonderful eyesight and powers of flight, and the activity and courage which so many members of the group possess make them remark-

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able, not only among birds but among all living creatures. Taken as a whole, our native species are of great economic usefulness, only a few of them preying to any great extent on birds, and to a still less extent on game birds, but largely on troublesome small rodents, such as field mice and ground squirrels, and large insects such as grasshoppers and locusts, so that any occasional depredations are more than compensated for.

These beautiful birds will soon be largely creatures of the past in this country if their wanton destruction continues at its present rate. Nearly every species of such birds native to North America has conspicuously diminished in numbers within the last few years so greatly that the sight of a hawk or other bird of prey even of the species formerly common is no longer a frequent event in most places.

This is the result of nothing else than the unreasonable, persistent and vindictive persecution that they are subjected to by man, in spite of the fact that the practical harmlessness of all but a few of them and the economic value of a great many of them has been proved again and again by scientific investigations, by government and other agencies, and by practical experience. Know your hawks and owls. Study them and their food habits.

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THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to bind together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therefore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Virgil D. King, Secretary-Treasurer, 2324 Bonnycastle Ave., Louisville, Ky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in the Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Teachers College, Bowling Green, Ky.

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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull and the true from the false is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Volume XV **SUMMER, 1939** **No. 3**

OBSERVATIONS OF WATER BIRDS AT THE FALLS OF THE OHIO

By BURT L. MONROE and ROBERT M. MENGEL

An examination of previous published literature pertaining to the birds of Kentucky discloses a noticeable lack of specimens in the authorization of species attributed to the state. Moreover, the very paucity of the records themselves indicates the lack of knowledge of the birds, particularly aquatic varieties, occurring in Kentucky. Thus a summary of the water and wading birds recorded in recent years in the area about Louisville and adjacent to the famous Falls of the Ohio River should contribute to our ornithological knowledge of this region.

Since the time when Audubon's tales of bird life around the mystic and little-known Falls intrigued bird students by reference to Snowy Owls fishing at the pot-holes in the ice and the nesting of Swallow-tailed Kites and Ospreys, there has been little persistent study in this area. In 1930 the authors began a cursory study of the present-day bird life here, and in the past four years have made an exact study, verifying all records with specimens where possible.

The area included in the work extends along the Ohio River from a point on the western edge of the city of Louisville, in Jefferson County, to a point in Oldham County approximately fourteen miles upstream. This area includes, in order of succession from west to east, the following excellent waterbird territories: Sand Island, with its gravel bars; the "pool" between the old dyke and the Falls; the Falls proper; the harbor at Louisville where the only inland Coast Guard Station is located; Towhead Island with thick masses of Arrowhead (Sagittaria latifolia); Caperton's Swamp; Six Mile Island with its Black-crowned Night Heron rookery; Goose Island, and finally Twelve Mile Island, surrounded by wide expanses of river, the last perhaps the most attractive place for ducks for many miles upstream or down.

The Falls of the Ohio, where most of the work on the shorebirds was accomplished, is unquestionably one of the most alluring places for migrating water birds in this section of the United States. During the days of Audubon and Wilson, the Falls consisted of a series of cascades creating a natural fall in the river of twenty-six feet to the mile. Many sand and gravel bars protruded below and above the drop but these have been considerably altered by the building of dams and a canal. The first canal, built by a private company in 1830, fifteen years or so after Audubon's work, was the first

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alteration to be made in the river's flow. The United States Government gained control of the canal shortly after the year 1842 and since that time has enlarged it three times, the last time in 1921. The first dam, built of timber, was erected in 1879 and was removed in 1912. The first concrete dam was built between the years 1909 and 1911 and was removed in 1928. The present dam, an "L"-shaped obstruction which gives the Falls their present form, was completed and filled with water in October, 1927.

The total length of the present dam is 8626 feet, blocking off the flow of the river for about a quarter of a mile extending from the Indiana shore and holding it to a parallel channel for approximately three-quarters of a mile downstream. This dam controls the stage of the river for the navigation of boats and furnishes power for the hydro-plant at the west end. It has obliterated all of the bars above Louisville. The short arm of the "L" is a fixed concrete wall over which a small amount of water falls, making a channel winding down near the Indiana shore. The long arm consists of a series of steel wickets, which, when lowered or raised by the government tug-boat, control the pool stage of the river. Water splashing over these wickets when they are closed spreads over a large area of pot holes in the rocks and supplies much food for the migrating hordes of shorebirds stopping here on the fall migration flight. Beyond the water-covered area are large expanses of bare rock and sand dunes, providing varied habitat for many species. At the lower end of the dam, a small sand island has formed. There a thick grove of willow trees furnishes roosting places for many herons and flocks of small passerine birds.

Although only distant a few blocks from downtown Louisville, the Falls proper is suggestive of another world. From the top of the dam, one is afforded a double view. Behind are the tall buildings of the city, their shadows falling across the water's edge; before and below spreads a panorama of many acres of low-lying rock, riddled and seamed with sluices, pools and pot holes, glaring brilliantly in the sunlight. One need only descend the fourteen-foot iron ladder of the dam abutment to enter a bird haven of rare possibilities.

The purpose of this article is to present in orderly form what is known of the water birds occurring in this area. This, it is hoped, will provide a sound basis for further investigation. No effort has been made to define the precise status of many species in their appearance here. The very nature of the river renders spring observations in the Falls area generally difficult or impossible. High water conceals the Falls until mid-summer at least, and also provides numerous other suitable places in the region, tending to scatter the transient birds over a much wider terrain. It will be noted accordingly that the greater part of the shorebird observations are made in late summer and early fall.

No attempt has been made to include birds appearing here but recorded by sight alone excepting such birds as the Wood Ibis, White Pelican and Snowy Egret, which can hardly be mistaken by the observing ornithologist, or those birds which have been seen under repeated and extremely favorable circumstances. Species which are difficult to identify under normal conditions and where no specimens were taken have been purposely excluded.

Moreover no effort has been made to include other than water-birds although it would be well to mention briefly a few of the "land birds" which are attracted to this area. Enormous mixed flocks of swallows and blackbirds course the river and gather at the Falls during late summer and early fall. The Bald Eagle (Haliaetus leucocephalus leucocephalus) has been noted riding the ice floes of the river in February and perched in the large sycamores in November and March. One single Duck Hawk (**Falco peregrinus anatum**) has appeared each winter since 1934 and forages from its favorite lookout on Goose Island. A lone Snowy Owl (**Nyctea nyctea**) was recorded November 6, 1937. Ospreys (**Pandion haliaetus carolinesis**) gather in flocks of four or five at a time during April and September, and American Pipits (**Anthus spinoletta rubescens**) feed among the rocks and sand dunes of the Falls in September.

(Continued in Fall Issue of The Warbler)

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ABSTRACT OF AN ADDRESS GIVEN BY TOM WALLACE, EDITOR OF THE LOUISVILLE TIMES, K. O. S., SPRING, 1939

To study birds through books, to poke about field and woodland and along lakes and watercourses, to look at them without bestirring ourselves to protect them from extermination is, it seems to me, somewhat anaemic. We should look to their perpetuation. We should be alive to the fact that they are menaced by the public's apathy, by the fact that they have few friends in legislative bodies.

Plentiful bird liwe is a symptom, charmingly visible, of nature in balance. We cannot have all of the birds, all of the varieties of birds, we should have unless we protect forests; but we cannot have economic welfare, lastingly, without protecting forests; for without forests to protect streams, to keep springs flowing, as well as to provide material for making almost countless varieties of neccessities of our modern life, the land would become barren, would not support for any great length of time, human life.

Ornithologists should be supporters of a whole group of projects which are referred to under the general term "conservation." They should do more than give their approval to state and national forests; to game sanctuaries; to legislation to remove pollution from streams, lakes, estuaries, even the sea, which at many points along our coasts is used for recreation; to creation of state and national parks, which are automatically refuges for every sort of wild life. They should maintain contact with legislatures and insist upon good laws being made and enforced. They should aid in educating various classes which are lamentably ill-informed, although some of them regard themselves as first-class conservationists. One of these classes, fortunately by no means so benighted as it was not long ago, but not so well-informed as, for its own interest, it should be, is made up of sportsmen. Only the most advanced sportsmen know enough about predation to reach intelligent decisions as to what species of birds or animals should be rated harmful and destroyed as vermin. Many sportsmen still imagine, in the profundity of their ignorance, that all hawks and owls are "varmints" of the air and should be destroyed, although informed people have known for generations that this is not true. Many farmers are quite as much in error. Many a farmer will devote valuable time to snooping about with a shotgun trying to kill a bird he calls a chicken hawk, a bird that rarely kills poultry, not because it would not, like you or me, like chicken, but because it was created for and is better fitted for other hunting.

Pennsylvania is the most advanced game and fish restoration state, yet, under a law promoted by its misguided sportsmen, it paid out $287,000 in bounties for hawks and owls before it learned the folly of that procedure. And before the Pennsylvania bounty law was passed, the Federal Department of Agriculture, and all well-informed students of bird life, knew that it was unwise to inaugurate hawk and owl slaughter to protect game and most unwise from the point of view of agriculture to permit it.

Protection of birds, through legislation, has been the inspiring enterprise of sundry prominent Americans who have realized that missionary work on a large scale is necessary to prevent really disasterous occurrences. Read ADVENTURES IN BIRD PROTECTION, by Thomas Gilbert Pearson, president emeritus of the National Association of Audubon Societies, if you would have a picture of what was done, what had to be done, to put an end to a vast trade in plumage of ornamental birds; birds killed by hundreds of thousands, transported by the shipload, to make ornaments for women's hats. But if you would learn about predation, about the mistakes of those who selectively destroy—and I think the National Association of Audubon Societies has made some mistakes along that line in the fairly recent past, although upon the whole its work has been marvelously good—study the books of Dr. Aldo Leopold, of the University of Wisconsin.

In the past fox hunters have striven to prevent reckless destruction of foxes, quail hunters believing that all foxes should die, scientists knowing that foxes destroy species which are more destructive of quail than foxes are. Mistakenly bird protectors have striven to exterminate raccoons, overlooking the fact that for uncounted centuries there were many raccoons, and many birds where raccoons ranged.

In Germany, less than a generation ago, woodpeckers became rare because the thorough German forest planters and timber harvesters kept the forest so pruned of dead wood that the woodpeckers had no place in which to live and produce their young. Finally it became necessary to make artificial woodpecker holes and hang them in the woods, because the woodpecker is a valuable protector of trees against harmful parasites. Yet many ill-informed Americans suppose that because woodpeckers peck on wood, they harm trees. They are one of the many varieties of forest police, varying in size from the Pileated, almost as large as a Crow, to the tiny Downy. Other species of birds are still smaller, creeping about the bark and leaves.

In Germany there are farms devoted to hatching and rearing hawks and owls, to be liberated in behalf of agriculture: birds to police the fields and woodlands against predators which men hardly ever see and do not recognize as destroyers of grass or grain or bird life when they see them.

There are sportsmen, and farmers, who believe crows should be exterminated by every sort of murderous mechanical means, or by poisoning; but scientists, not opposing sensible control measures where crows become destructive, know that these birds do some harm and some good and should not be destroyed utterly. Within a decade I heard a Kentucky game and fish bureau officer recommend killing Kingfishers because they eat fish, a foolish project, of course. In Florida, as Dr. Pearson's book tells you, professional fishermen clubbed thousands of baby pelicans to death on the nest, believing them destroyers of fish on a large scale, but ornithologists discovered that they live mainly on a species of fish men find inedible. Farmers, in nine cases out of ten, still regard the skunk as a "varmint" that kills fowls. Scientists know that the skunk, although sometimes it kills a young chicken or perhaps steals an egg, is highly useful as a destroyer of grubs that in turn destroy trees; and trees provide, among other things, homes for the birds that you like to study. A den of sknuks has lived under my chicken house all winter and is welcome to remain there. I personally feed the chickens when I am at home. I have not yet found any effect of the skunk den except that there are no mice in the laying-mash container. Not many farmers or sportsmen know that a Monkey-faced Owl is worth eight cats as a mouser and kills birds only very rarely.

The Audubon law, protecting non-game birds, including all but two varieties of hawks and all but one variety of owls, is on Kentucky's statute books but is poorly enforced. You should insist that the Game and Fish Department enforce it. Eagles are protected by law and should be protected by the law's enforcement.

Conservation of wild life depends upon education, which is not nearly so widespread as it should be. Help to spread it. Above all things keep an eye on your state's law-makers and law-enforcers: upon the law-makers during sessions of the General Assembly and upon law-enforcers all the time.

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FIELD DAY AT OTTER CREEK

By Beckham Bird Club

On Sunday, May 14, 1939, the Beckham Bird Club, Louisville Chapter of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, held its annual Spring Field Day at the Otter Creek Reservation in Meade County. This area, consisting of 2500 acres, in a rugged, primitive setting, was acquired by the Federal Government for recreational purposes and is being developed by the National Park Service. Camping facilities in a safe, sanitary, and healthful camping atmosphere have been provided, and a portion of the area is devoted to general picknicking; all the remainder is being reserved for reforestation and a wild life refuge.

The reservation is in a cavernous neighborhood where there are comparatively few surface streams; drainage is chiefly through sinkholes and caves. Otter Creek, however, deeply entrenched, flows through the area and empties into the Ohio River a little upstream. The high cliffs that border the river afford many picturesque scenes, and a walk along the railroad at the foot of the cliffs is no less interesting. A number of caves, several so large that one can walk upright in them for some distance, with streams emerging from them, afford enjoyable side trips. The upland country contains both bare fields and second-growth timber.

The Club had engaged one of the camping units for Saturday and Sunday, and five enterprising members spent Saturday night there. On Sunday, after the arrival of twenty-two members and friends, three observation parties were formed, each covering a different territory. The groups met at headquarters in the afternoon and reported their results. After eliminating possible duplications, the total list for the day contained 86 species and 624 individuals.

As far as we know, this is the first time that the birds of the area have been systematically recorded. Undoubtedly some areas were overlooked that would have yielded additional species. Notably absent from the list are shore birds and marsh birds. The area has no permanent marshy or swampy land, however, and no lake. Much of the land, too, has only recently been taken out of cultivation, and when some of this acquires a wilderness status, additional species will appear.

We were fortunate in having a perfect day, and every one enjoyed the trip in this new territory. We hope, of course, to check our results at some comparable period in the future. Here is the list of our birds: Green Heron, 1; Turkey Vulture, 5; Black Vulture, 5; Bobwhite, 5; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Killdeer, 1; Mourning Dove, 8; Black-billed Cuckoo, 1; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 4; Whip-poor-will, 3; Nighthawk, 3; Chimney Swift, 36; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 6; Flicker, 3; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 3; Red-headed Woodpecker, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 5; Kingbird, 4; Crested Flycatcher, 8; Phoebe, 16; Wood Pewee, 10; Acadian Flycatcher, 6; Rough-winged Swallow, 14; Barn Swallow, 3; Purple Martin, 7; Blue Jay, 7; Crow, 19; Carolina Chickadee, 9; Tufted Titmouse, 14; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; House Wren, 1; Bewick's Wren, 3; Carolina Wren, 15; Mockingbird, 2; Catbird, 11; Brown Thrasher, 4; Robin, 8; Wood Thrush, 7; Olive-backed Thrush, 9; Gray-cheeked Thrush, 4; Veery, 1; Bluebird, 3; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 14; Starling, 12; White-eyed Vireo, 17; Yellow-throated Vireo, 4; Red-eyed Vireo, 17; Tennessee Warbler, 1; Yellow Warbler, 6; Magnolia Warbler, 3; Cape May Warbler, 1; Myrtle Warbler, 3; Black-throated Green Warbler, 5; Blackburnian Warbler, 2; Sycamore Warbler, 5; Chestnut-sided Warbler, 3; Bay-breasted Warbler, 1; Blackpoll Warbler, 5; Pine Warbler, 2; Prairie Warbler, 9; Ovenbird, 4; Louisiana Water-thrush, 4; Kentucky Warbler, 5; Maryland Yellow-throat, 10; Yellow-breasted Chat, 20; Wilson's Warbler, 1; Canada Warbler, 1; English Sparrow, 4; Meadowlark, 10; Red-winged Blackbird, 10; Orchard Oriole, 1; Baltimore Oriole, 4; Bronzed Grackle, 8; Cowbird, 10; Scarlet Tanager, 6; Summer Tanager, 10; Cardinal, 21; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 1; Indigo Bunting, 30; Goldfinch, 30; Towhee, 15; Chipping Sparrow, 9; Field Sparrow, 12; Song Sparrow, 4. Total, 86 species, 624 individuals.

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NOTES FROM MARION

I have had some very interesting and unusual experiences in my observations this spring. About the middle of March a strange bird appeared in my garden, and for several mornings I heard him sing; but I could not see him. After several unsuccessful attempts I located him while singing. At once I recognized him as a Wren and knew that he must be the House Wren, as I already knew and have known always the other species.

About March 25 he built a nest in a gourd in my garage, and, not being satisfied with it, tore it up and built another. He seemed to like the second one very well; but he went to work in another place. Before he got very far with this third one, his mate arrived on the scene. She inspected both nests and did not seem to like either. So I put up another gourd in a small evergreen about three feet from the ground. That was on April 1. The next day I went to Bowling Green to join the party at the McElroy Place, and when

I returned Sunday evening, I found this last gourd about full of all sorts of sticks and grasses, with a lining of feathers. The very next day there was an egg in it. Seven eggs were laid, and incubation began. The male seemed to lose his zest for singing after incubation began and would sing only occasionally.

On April 25 another pair of House Wrens came into our garden and proceeded to build in a small wren house which my daughter had moved from place to place hoping it would be occupied. It is rather interesting to have two pairs of these wrens nesting in one garden when they are unusually a species nesting farther north.

Some time ago a pair of Flickers drilled a cavity in a dead poplar in our yard, laid their eggs, and seemed to be perfectly happy until a pair of Starlings decided they wanted a new home. They had a battle royal for several days, and the Starlings seemed to be the winners. They carried out the Flicker's eggs one at a time and dropped them near our fish pool and began to carry nesting material into the cavity. For a few days I thought the war was over. But the Flickers came back with a determination to use their own home, routed the Starlings, threw out their nest, and started housekeeping anew.

This morning, May 21, 1939, a friend of mine brought in a strange bird for me to identify. At a glance I saw it was a Loon. After careful study I found it was the female Red-throated Loon. I cannot account for this bird's being in this territory at this time of year unless it got lost in flight.

—DR. T. ATCHISON FRAZER.

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A NEW RECORD FOR ONE DAY

For many years I have tried to see how many species I could find in a single day in the midst of the spring migration. As long ago as 1923 I hung up a record that had remained unbroken until 1939. That record was 97 species. On April 22 of this year I determined to set a new standard, since the usual hosts of spring migrants were here, and the McElroy Lake was still yielding numerous species. Accompanied by Russell Starr, a fine bird student, I went before daybreak to Professor L. Y. Lancaster's cabin at Sally's Rock, fourteen miles northwest of town. There we struck the horde of warblers and found 70 species of birds before 8:30. Business kept me engaged until 1:30, when we went to the McElroy and Chaney Farms, south of town. There we added 40 species to our list, making a total of 110 for the day, 13 more than my previous best record for one day. This list is issued as a challenge to all of the K. O. S. people. Preserve your best record for one day and send it to me next spring for our Summer, 1940, issue. It ought to be as fascinating to do this as to make a Christmas Census, now such a live part of our K. O. S. Here are my birds: Horned Grebe, 2; Pied-billed Grebe, 25; Great Blue Heron, 1; Green Heron, 6; Black-crowned Night Heron, 4; Mallard, 10; Black Duck, 20; Baldpate, 10; Pintail, 25; Blue-winged Teal, 400; Shoveller, 200; Wood Duck, 4; Ring-necked Duck, 20; Lesser Scaup, 25; Bufflehead, 4; Ruddy Duck, 6; Turkey Vulture; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Bob-white; Coot, 3000; Semipalmated Plover, 2; Killdeer; Wilson's Snipe, 5; Spotted Sandpiper, 2; Greater Yellow-legs, 10; Lesser Yellow-legs, 30; Pectoral Sandpiper, 15; Least Sandpiper, 1; Dove; Chimney Swift; Belted Kingfisher; Flicker; Pileated Woodpecker; Red-bellied Woodpecker; Red-headed Woodpecker; Southern Downy Woodpecker; Kingbird; Crested Flycatcher; Phoebe; Prairie Horned Lark; Tree Swallow; Rough-winged Swallow; Barn Swallow; Purple Martin; Blue Jay; Crow; Carolina Chickadee; Tufted Titmouse; White-breasted Nuthatch; House Wren; Bewick's Wren; Carolina Wren; Mockingbird; Catbird; Brown Thrasher; Robin; Wood Thrush; Hermit Thrush; Gray-cheeked Thrush; Bluebird; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher; Golden-crowned Kinglet; Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Migrant Shrike; Starling; White-eyed Vireo; Yellow-throated Vireo; Red-eyed Vireo; Black and White Warbler; Prothonotary Warbler; Worm-eating Warbler; Golden-winged Warbler; Tennessee Warbler; Yellow Warbler; Magnolia Warbler; Myrtle Warbler; Black-throated Green Warbler; Sycamore Warbler; Black-poll Warbler; Pine Warbler; Prairie Warbler; Palm Warbler; Yellow Palm Warbler; Louisiana Water-thrush; Maryland Yellow-throat; Wilson's Warbler; Redstart; English Sparrow; Meadowlark; Red-winged Blackbird; Bronzed Grackle; Cowbird; Scarlet Tanager; Summer Tanager; Cardinal; Indigo Bunting; Purple Finch; Goldfinch; Towhee; Savannah Sparrow; Grasshopper Sparrow; Henslow's Sparrow; Bachman's Sparrow; Slate-colored Junco; Chipping Sparrow; Field Sparrow; White-crowned Sparrow; White-throated Sparrow; Swamp Sparrow; Song Sparrow.

—GORDON WILSON.

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OUR FALL MEETING

Our fall meeting this year is to be held at Paducah, at the invitation of Paducah Junior College and several of our members in the city. The exact dates will be announced a little later. As usual, it will be in October, probably about the middle. Plan to be with us and be on the lookout for a postal card announcing the exact time.

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EARLY LIFE OF THE K. O. S.

Since a very large percentage of our membership have come into the K. O. S. within the last five or six years, it seems to the editor that it would be wise to tell again some of the early history of our organization. As early as 1919 some of us widely scattered bird students contemplated a state society, but nothing beyond a friendly exchange of letters resulted. Mr. A. F. Ganier, whom I have so often called our godfather, urged several of us to lay plans for a state group and encouraged us by telling of the beginning of the Tennessee Ornithological Society. During the winter of 1922-23 Dr. L. Otley Pindar, of Versailles, Mr. B. C. Bacon, of Madisonville, and I exchanged numerous letters and planned to meet in Louisville during the week of the K. E. A. to talk over organization plans. At the last minute Mr. Bacon found he could not get away from his work but sent suggestions in the form of a constitution, which I still have in my files. Dr. Pindar and I met in the Seelbach Hotel and worked nearly a whole afternoon on plans. Since our society had three members, we elected ourselves officers: President L. Otley Pindar; Vice-President, B. C. Bacon; Secretary-Treasurer, Gordon Wilson. The local press gave us a good notice, which at once caused several people to affiliate with us, including such stalwarts as Miss Emilie Yunker. As secretary-treasurer, I began writing to all prospective members and was able to find enough interest to schedule a rather full program for the following year, 1924.

The 1924 meeting was held on April 25, in the Leather Room of the Seelbach Hotel. The three officers were re-elected, and the following additions were made: members of the Executive Committee: Professor Frank L. Rainey, Centre College, Danville; Miss Emilie Yunker; Mr. J. B. Cox, Murray State Normal School. Mrs. Merit O'Neal, of Louisville, was chosen historian of the society. At this same meeting the new society was affiliated with the Wilson Ornithological Club, of which I was then the secretary. The society was invited to Bowling Green for a fall meeting. (Later this date was canceled, because the Wilson Ornithological Club was holding its Thanksgiving meeting in Nashville, and our members decided to attend that in as large numbers as possible. That was our first joint meeting with the Tennessee Ornithological Society, too, a type of meeting that we hope will long continue).

Since none of the minutes of our fist program meeting were ever printed, as THE KENTUCKY WARBLER did not come into existence until January, 1925, it would be well to recall the speakers and their titles. It is doubtful whether we have had any more delightful or varied program in the whole history of the K. O. S. Mr. Carl D. Herdman, of Bowling Green, discussed "Human Characteristics of Birds, or Birds as I Know Them," an intimate picture of the birds on his five-acre bird sanctuary just outside Bowling Green. Mr. Ben J. Blincoe, of Dayton, Ohio, formerly of Bardstown, spoke on "Birds of Nelson County," a brilliant study that later appeared in AUK. Miss Emilie Yunker gave an account of how the children of Louisville make friends with the birds, particularly in Cherokee Park. Professor L. Y. Lancaster, of Western Teachers College, reported on bird-banding as he and the present editor had begun it in 1924. Mrs. Merit O'Neal, of Louisville, pleaded for a more widespread and effective bird study in the schools. Dr. L. Otley Pindar listed all the articles on Kentucky ornithology that he had been able to accumulate in his lifetime of bird study. (It is a deep regret to the editor that this paper was lost; it would be one of the most valuable things the K. O. S. could have in its archives.) The concluding talk was on methods of keeping records, by Gordon Wilson. Thus began our society, a pretty live infant, it seems to me. From time to time I may tell of other important events in the history of the K. O. S., in order that all of us may know what we are affiliated with and what its previous history has been.

RARE OR HARD-TO-FIND BIRDS ON THE LAST TEN BOWLING GREEN CENSUSES

	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Great Blue Heron						2				
Canada Goose				43			210	18		
Common Mallard					1					2
Wood Duck						2				
Lesser Scaup					1			1		
Sharp-shinned Hawk					1	2				
Red-shouldered Hawk										1
Rough legged Hawk								1		
Killdeer	3		70		7	2				1
Wilson's Snipe		1								
Screech Owl					1				1	
Great Horned Owl					1					
Barred Owl						1		1	1	
Belted Kingfisher					1				1	2
Winter Wren			1	3	3		2	1		6
Hermit Thrush			2	6	1	1		4		2
Pine Warbler	1									
Red-winged Blackbird				1	6				20	12
Cowbird			250			23				
Rusty Blackbird	90	6		6			36			
Bronzed Grackle			13	27	4	7	75		3	5
Savannah Sparrow				1	3			3		10
Fox Sparrow		1				1			6	4
Swamp Sparrow				31	3	5			10	25

This list does not include merely species that are found in small numbers; it deals with species that are difficult to find or that occur in differing numbers when found. The White-breasted Nuthatch, not in this list, is never found in larger numbers than 8, but it appears in nearly every census from 1918 to 1938. Similarly, the Marsh Hawk is normally rare but is found in about its usual numbers year after year. Some of the species in the list need explanation because of their being entirely absent from some lists but regular in others. The swamp birds—Hermit Thrush, Savannah Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, and Winter Wren—almost regularly appear when our censuses included the Chaney Swamp, where they are found every winter in fair numbers. The Canada Goose winters here sometimes on the C. A. Smith Ponds, near the city; in other winters it is wholly absent.

This brief little article illustrates how valuable our censuses become year by year. In 1930 we felt our total of 31 species was almost a failure, but included in this census were three of our rarest winter finds: Wilson's Snipe, Rusty Blackbird, and Fox Sparrow. Every year since 1931 we have had two or three parties and have thus covered more representative territory and recorded more of the hard-to-find species. For the suggestion for this little study I am indebted, as so often, to Mr. A. F. Ganier, who might be called the godfather of our K. O. S.

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THE McELROY FARM—SEASON OF 1939

The season of 1939 on the McElroy Farm has been in many ways the most enjoyable of the numerous years that I have studied birds there. Water ran in the ditch practically all winter, but the fields were not covered until early February. My first trip to yield any water birds was made on February 11, when Mallards, Black Ducks, Pintails, Shovellers, and Hooded Mergansers were already there in numbers, although the water was not more than fifty acres in extent. From then on through March and early April the ducks were plentiful. The Pintails and Ring-necks reached their height about March 15, there being about a thousand of each species. The Lesser Scaup and Blue-winged Teal became quite common by April 1. For a single day, April 1, when the bird students were here, there were more than a hundred Red-breasted Mergansers on the lake, but by the next day all had gone but six. In general the total number of ducks has been hardly so high as in 1935 and 1937, but I have recorded 20 species during the season, the best year's record.

Other unusual numbers were the following: Coots, in mid-April, 3000; Pied-billed Grebes, 25 on April 22; Black-crowned Night Herons, 45 on April 2; Semipalmated Plovers, abundant about the middle of May; and Semipalmated and Least Sandpipers, quite plentiful on May 20. In many ways the days of the field trip, April 1 and 2, were the best of the entire year, since we saw on those two days 41 species of water birds of the 54 species listed for the whole season, much the best record for the year. Several species were more abundant on these days than at any other time, and several species were recorded only then.

The year has brought some new species to my list for the farm: Cory's Least Bittern, 1, May 27; Gadwall, 1 on April 2 and again on April 7; Greater Scaup, 1 on April 1 and 2; Bonaparte's Gull, 2 recorded by Dr. L. Y. Lancaster and Dr. and Mrs. Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr., on April 12 while they were taking some moving pictures of the lake and its birds; Least Tern, a mated pair on April 30. The

Holboell's Grebe was recorded three times, last on May 27. I listed the Double-crested Cormorant twice and the Egret once, the latter on the Chaney Lake, a mile away. Two of the small ducks that are exceedingly rare here were observed in small numbers several times at close range: the Ruddy and the Bufflehead. In the field across the road from the house I found 4 Upland Plovers on April 1 and 7 on April 7. The Baird's Sandpiper, recorded only twice before, appeared in as large numbers as 10 on May 17. I also listed 6 Red-backed Sandpipers on May 14, the second record for this species. The Loon, listed in 1937, appears several times on my 1939 records, 4 for March 30, 2 for April 1, and 1 for April 2.

I have been unable to find any nests with eggs or young, though I found eight or ten nests of Coots that had been started and abandoned. Young Black-crowned Night Herons were listed on June 6.

The Chaney Farm, so much like the McElroy Farm in its temporary lake, has been hard of access this year, because the water has been so high. Each of the lakes covered more than 300 acres. I have been to the Chaney Farm several times but usually only supplemented the list already made at the McElroy Farm. The McElroy Lake disappeared on June 10, but the Chaney Lake remained for ten more days.

My long-delayed article on the farm, with a summary of all of my studies, has been accepted for publication by THE WILSON BULLETIN and should appear within the near future.

Here are the water birds listed for the season of 1939: Loon, Holboell's Grebe, Horned Grebe, Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, American Egret, Green Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, American Bittern, Cory's Least Bittern, Canada Goose, Blue Goose, Mallard, Black Duck, Gadwall, Baldpate, Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Blue-winged Teal, Shoveller, Wood Duck, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Canvas-back, Greater Scaup, Lesser Scaup, American Golden-eye, Buffle-head, Ruddy Duck, Hooded Merganser, American Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser, Coot, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Wilson's Snipe, Upland Plover, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Western Willet, Greater Yellow-legs, Lesser Yellow-legs, Pectoral Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Red-backed Sandpiper, Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Herring Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Bonaparte's Gull, Common Tern, and Least Tern.

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WOODCOCK NESTING NEAR GLASGOW

Russell Starr has reported to the editor that he has found a family of young Woodcocks in a swamp near Beaver Creek, two miles southwest of Glasgow.

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HOW FAR SOUTH IN KENTUCKY DOES THE SONG SPARROW NEST?

Does the Song Sparrow nest in your territory? Please report to the editor any summer records of this species. It has been found between Munfordville and Elizabethtown in summer and seems to be a regular summer resident, or all-year resident, north of Elizabethtown.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therefore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Virgil D. King, Secretary-Treasurer, 2324 Bonnycastle Ave., Louisville, Ky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in the Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Teachers College, Bowling Green, Ky.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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No. 4

. . . The . . .
Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull and the true from the false is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Volume XV AUTUMN, 1939 No. 4

PROGRAM OF THE FIFTEENTH FALL MEETING THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY PADUCAH, KENTUCKY OCTOBER 20, 21, 1939

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, IRVIN COBB HOTEL

7:15 P. M.—Registration.
First Public Program.
7:45 P. M.—Burt L. Monroe, President, K. O. S., presiding.
"Greetings"........................Miss Shirley Durham, Paducah
"Response"................Dr. Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green
"The Attitude of the Conservation Department Toward Bird Life in Kentucky"..............................
Major James Brown, Conservation Department, Frankfort.
"Bird Banding" (illustrated with motion pictures)
James Boswell Young, Louisville

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

9:30 A. M.—Business Session, Irvin Cobb Hotel.
1:30 P. M.—Field Trip, Forrest Durand, leader.
6:00 P. M.—Dinner, Irvin Cobb Hotel.
"Interesting Bird Experiences," Round Table Discussion, speakers limited to five minutes each.
8:00 P. M.—Second Public Program, Irvin Cobb Hotel.
"Methods of Bird Study"....................Dr. Gordon Wilson
"Efforts of the Soil Conservation Service to Improve Conditions for Bird Life in Kentucky," (illustrated with lantern slides)............................
Forrest Durand, Paducah

NOTE: Make reservations for the dinner with Miss Shirley Durham, Sans Souci, Apartment D.

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WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB AT LOUISVILLE

Don't forget that the Wilson Ornithological Club will hold its annual meeting this year at Louisville. The dates are November 24 and 25. Make your plans to be on hand at this first meeting of the W. O. C. in Kentucky.

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OUR CHRISTMAS CENSUSES

Be sure to take a Christmas Bird Census this year and send the results to the editor. For forms to use, consult the January issue of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER. Year by year interest has grown in this work; you should become a vital part of it.

JUN 9

OBSERVATIONS OF WATERBIRDS AT THE FALLS OF THE OHIO

By BURT L. MONROE and ROBERT M. MENGEL

(Continued from Summer, 1939, issue)

Once during the last four years the Ohio River has frozen completely over, this during the exceptionally cold winter of 1935-1936 when sub-zero temperatures prevailed at Louisville for over a week. At the subsequent break-up, ice floes of arctic resemblance were formed; and great heaps of ice, fifty feet in height in places, lined the river banks. Coincident with this anomalous cold spell came unprecedented numbers of cold-weather waterfowl. Many Old-Squaws and American Merganser drakes were noticed, and other species were generally abundant. Such conditions, however, are extremely unusual in this area and have no lasting effect on the representation of winter waterfowl.

Unless it is stated otherwise, all specimens taken are at present in the possession of the senior author.

Common Loon (Gavia immer immer)—Recorded frequently during April and November. Large flocks numbering between fifty and one hundred individuals appear in the vicinity of Six Mile and Twelve Mile Islands in November. Specimens were taken April 6, 1933 and November 11, 1938.

Holboell's Grebe (Colymbus grisegena holboelli)—A rare bird in this area. One seen March 17, 1934, on a pond just off the river bank near Goose Island. A specimen was secured near Twelve Mile Island on October 23, 1938.

Horned Grebe (Colymbus auritus)—Flock numbering twenty-five or thirty birds seen during late October and early November. Single birds have been recorded occasionally from March 21 through May 13. One individual remained in this area as late as June 17, 1934, but there was no evidence of nesting. One specimen taken October 23, 1938, near Twelve Mile Island.

Pied-Billed Grebe (Podilymbus podiceps podiceps)—A breeding bird in this area, appearing March 5 and remaining until November 22.

White Pelican (Pelecanus erythrorynonos)—Two of these birds appeared on the Falls of the Ohio on September 5, 1938 and were recorded by Dorothy Madden Hobson (Auk 56:327, 1939).

Double-Crested Cormorant (Phalacrocorax auritus auritus)—Winters sparingly at Louisville. Recorded most often in the months of April and November, in the vicinity of Goose Island.

Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias herodias)—Recorded in each month of the year except January, February, and December, but not as yet found breeding at Louisville. Five or six may be seen at one time feeding at the Falls during late August and September.

American Egret (Casmerodius albus egretta)—During the northward migration or wandering in late July and August, these birds congregate on the Falls and at Towhead Island in flocks of approximately one hundred. They generally appear in this region on July 22 and have been recorded as late as October 15. Specimens were secured July 25, 1936, and August 28, 1937.

Snowy Egret (Egretta thula thula)—Six birds were seen on August 21, and nine on August 22, 1937. Their yellow feet were easily noted as the birds flew and waded about the Falls.

Little Blue Heron (Florida caerulea caerulea)—Their numbers here equal those of the American Egret, with which they associate. Most birds recorded are in the white plumage, very few of the blue phase being noticed. Seen from July 22 to September 16.

Eastern Green Heron (Butorides virescens virescens)—Most abundant, breeding in numbers in this area along the Ohio River. Arrive March 27 and leave October 21.

Black-Crowned Night Heron (Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli)—The Falls is the chief feeding ground for the colony of these birds which nest in the Cottonwood trees (**Populus deltoides**) on Six Mile Island. Another colony nests in Southern Indiana and congregates on the Falls. The colony on Six Mile Island consists of approximately one hundred and seventy-five nests and is growing in size each year. This bird is a resident here from March 25 to October 12.

American Bittern (Botaurus lentiginosus)—Recorded most often in the spring during the months of April and May in Caperton's Swamp. A specimen was taken April 19, 1936.

Eastern Least Bittern (Ixobrychus exilis exilis)—Found breeding in Caperton's Swamp every year since study began. Never found in numbers. Latest date September 11.

Wood Ibis (Mycteria americana)—One bird; first seen at a small pond in Floyd County in Southern Indiana, a very short distance from the Falls, on August 5, 1934. It appeared on the Falls proper on August 12 and was recorded again on August 18.

Whistling Swan (Cygnus columbianus)—Two birds, one adult and one immature, seen on the Ohio River near Six Mile Island on December 22, 1935.

Common Canada Goose (Branta canadensis canadensis)—Often seen in flight over Louisville in March and October. Occasionally rests along the Ohio. Eleven birds recorded near Six Mile Island October 23, 1936. A flock of twenty-one remained near Twelve Mile Island from March 14 to March 21, 1937.

Lesser Snow Goose (Chen hyperborea hyperborea)—On October 18, 1936, thirty-one of these birds were seen in company with a large flock of Blue Geese in flight over the city. Five were recorded November 8, 1935, in a flock of Blue Geese.

Blue Goose (Chen caerulescens)—Often recorded in migration over this region. On rare occasions it rests on the Ohio, where it has been taken by hunters. An immature bird was secured October 24, 1938.

Common Mallard (Anas platyrynchos platyrynchos)—Winters in considerable numbers along the Ohio River, mostly in the vicinity of Twelve Mile Island.

Red-Legged Black Duck (Anas rupripes rupripes).

Common Black Duck (Anas rupripes tristis)—Both forms unquestionably appear in this region. Great numbers winter in the vicinity of Twelve Mile Island. A series of skins will be necessary to determine the relative abundance of each race.

Gadwall (Chaulelasmus streperus)—Recorded in fair numbers mostly in April and November.

European Widgeon (Mareca penelope)—On February 22, 1939, three of these birds were found on Lentz's Pond, a wet-weather pond near Harrod's Creek, Jefferson County, Kentucky. There were two males and a third bird which seemed to be a female. One male appeared again on February 25, 26, 27, and 28. On February 28 it was collected.

Baldpate (Mareca americana)—Common in late March and April. Numbers also recorded in November.

American Pintail (Dafila acuta tzitzihoa)—Recorded along the Ohio in each month from September to April. Abundant in middle of February.

Green-Winged Teal (Nettion carolinense)—Not found in sizeable flocks. Recorded March 14 to April 14 and November 11 to December 5.

Blue-Winged Teal—(Querquedula discors)—Most abundant from August 18 to October 2, and from March 18 to May 10. All ponds in the vicinity of the Ohio River in this region are literally covered with them in the spring.

Shoveller (Spatula clypeata)—Fairly common pond duck in March and April. Not so numerous along the river although fair numbers are taken by hunters in November. .

Wood Duck (Aix sponsa)—Increasing amazingly in the last few years. Breeds near Goose Island, Rose Island, and Caperton's Swamp. Young birds were found at all three spots during 1938.

Redhead (Nyroca americana)—Winters rarely in this area. Taken occasionally by hunters in November. Three birds were killed November 11, 1938, and three others seen December 26, 1938.

Ring-Necked Duck (Nyroca collaris)—Flocks numbering 1500 to 2000 were observed on March 21 and March 28, 1937. Specimens were taken on former date. Also recorded in November, December, January, February, April, and May.

Canvasback (Nyroca valisineria)—Recorded sparingly in the months from November to March. Flocks of twenty-four and twenty-two seen on March 20 and March 21, 1937, respectively.

Lesser Scaup Duck (Nyroca affinis)—Known here as the "little bluebill," this duck is most abundant during the winter months, many records being made from late October to middle May.

American Golden-Eye (Glaucionetta clangula americana)—Winter resident from November 15 to April 13.

Buffle-Head (Charitonetta albeola)—A winter resident from November 10 to April 13.

Old-Squaw (Clangula hyemalis)—This bird arrives in the fall from November 25 to December 10. These are usually immature birds and females. A few only seen at a time, but in severe weather in January and February we see fair-sized flocks of adults. It usually leaves us as soon as the weather opens but has been seen rarely as late as the middle of March.

White-Winged Scoter (Melanitta deglandi)—Irregular in habits, it has been recorded spasmodically from October 25 to middle February. Two specimens were taken November 29, 1936, and two more November 6, 1938.

American Scoter (Oidemia americana)—Of very rare occurrence here. Two specimens taken November 9, 1938.

Ruddy Duck (Erismatura jamaicensis rubida)—Increasing numbers are appearing in this area. During November, 1938, flocks of fifty or more were often recorded. Rare in winter.

Hooded Merganser (Lophodytes cucullatus)—Records secured from November 14 through April 23. Four specimens secured November 16, 1938.

American Merganser (Mergus merganser americanus)—The most abundant of the Mergansers at Louisville. Recorded as early as November 3, mostly females and immature males. Old males usually arrive with the advent of extreme weather and leave as soon as the weather moderates. Two adult male specimens were taken February 2, 1936.

Red-Breasted Merganser (Mergus serrator)—Never very common here. Male bird taken April 7, 1935. These birds are recorded most often in February, March and April; occasionally in December, January, and February.

Sandhill Crane (Grus canadensis tabida)—One bird seen in a large pasture on each day from March 31 through April 6, 1938. The only other record for this species at Louisville was secured on March 19, 1933, when thirteen of these birds were seen in flight over the Ohio River at Goose Island.

King Rail (Rallus elegans elegans)—Summer resident, breeding sparingly in Caperton's Swamp and other marshy areas. Adult bird captured and banded April 21, 1937. Specimen taken in Caperton's Swamp July 20, 1936.

Virginia Rail (Rallus limicola limicola)—An uncommon transient in marshy areas near the Ohio River. One bird taken April 25, 1936.

Sora (Porzana carolina)—Spring and fall migrant, most records being secured from middle April to middle May.

Florida Gallinule (Gallinula chloropus cachinnans)—Recorded in Caperton's Swamp April 26, 28, May 4, 9, and 19. A specimen was secured October 5, 1938, when one struck a wire during migration.

American Coot (Fulica americana americana)—Very abundant during spring and fall migrations. Rafts of them appear on the Ohio in April, late October, and November. Occasional birds seen during the summer months.

Piping Plover (Charadrius melodus)—Two birds seen on September 5, 1937, on the Falls, one collected. On August 27, 1938, another was seen. A day later, August 28, 1938, one was collected here by a member of the field party of the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History.

Semipalmated Plover (Charadrius semipalmatus)—Seen often on the Falls about the gravel and sand bars. Specimens taken here dated September 6 and September 13, 1938.

Killdeer (Oxyechus vociferus vociferus)—Very common breeding bird at Louisville. In late summer and early fall it is ubiquitous, especially on the Falls, where great flocks gather. It is a permanent resident in this area.

American Golden Plover (Pluvialis dominica dominica)—Records on the Falls for September 3, 8, 9, 11, 16, 18, 19, 20 and October 1. Specimens taken September 11 and September 18, 1937. A third specimen taken September 11, 1938, is now in possession of the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History.

Black-Bellied Plover (Squatarola squatarola)—One bird taken September 18, 1937. These birds are found on the Falls regularly each year on various dates from July 22 to October 1. They are never found in numbers here, usually single birds or in groups of two to five.

Ruddy Turnstone (Arenaria interpres morinella)—Seen on the Falls from September 1 through September 27. Two specimens, both females in the winter plumage, were taken September 27, 1936, and September 7, 1937, respectively.

American Woodcock (Philohela minor)—Breeds sparingly in Jefferson County but most often recorded in months of March and November.

Wilson's Snipe (Capella delicata)—Fairly common migrant in spring and fall. Records range from March 6 to May 13 and from September 1 to November 15.

Upland Plover (Bartramia longicauda)—A flock of fifteen seen at Airport on July 30, 1938. Specimen taken on September 6, 1937. Present in small numbers from mid-summer to November.

Spotted Sandpiper (Actitis macularia)—Quite common. Recorded in each month from April to October. Plentiful on the Falls in August and September.

Eastern Solitary Sandpiper (Tringa solitaria solitaria)—Common spring and fall migrant. It leaves so late in spring and returns to us so early in the summer months that it seems never to leave. The latest known date here was June 2, and the earliest arrival in the fall was July 9.

Western Willet (Catoptrophorus semipalmatus inornatus)—One record only; a single bird was seen on the Falls on August 21, 1937, and was collected on August 22. (Auk, 55:678, 1938).

Greater Yellow-Legs (Totanus melanoleucus)—Recorded sparingly from April 1 to May 13 and from August 7 to November 5. Specimens taken April 12, 1936, and September 11, 1937.

Lesser Yellow-Legs (Totanus flavipes)—Much more common than the preceding species. Large flocks recorded from April 1 to May 22 and from July 21 to October 21.

Pectoral Sandpiper (Pisobia melanotos)—Excluding the Killdeer, this bird is by far the most abundant shorebird on the Falls. From July 22 to October 1 they may be found in numbers feeding among the potholes near the wickets of the dam. They are also found in considerable numbers from April 3 to May 15 on the mud flats near the Ohio.

Baird's Sandpiper (Pisobia bairdi)—Extremely rare on the Falls and mud flats of this area. Two birds were seen on August 27 and one bird on August 28, 1938, on the Falls. A single bird remained on the mud flats near Caperton's Swamp for the entire week of September 5 through September 11, 1938.

Least Sandpiper (Pisobia minutilla)—Plentiful in late August and early September. Also found in fewer numbers in May. Specimens taken September 6 and September 13, 1936.

Long-Billed Dowitcher (Limnodromus griseus scolopaceus)—On August 19, 1939, a specimen of this bird was taken by the senior author on the Falls. Sight records made previously on August 12, 19, 21 and September 1, 2, and 18, during the years 1936, 1937 and 1938.

Stilt Sandpiper (Micropalama himantopus)—Recorded April 3, 17, and May 7 on mud flat near flooded cornfield in region of Six Mile Island. Records on the Falls secured August 28, September 1, 5, 7, and 8. On August 28, 1938, a specimen was secured for the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History. This bird was taken on the Falls. On September 8, 1938, the senior author took a bird on a mud flat above Towhead Island.

Semipalmated Sandpiper (Ereunetes pusillus)—Seen in large numbers along with the Least and Pectoral Sandpipers. Specimens taken August 23 and September 6, 1936, and August 27, 1938, on the Falls.

Western Sandpiper (Ereunetes maurii)—The first specimen of this bird for the state of Kentucky was taken by the authors on July 22, 1939 on the Falls. The bird still retained an amazing amount of the summer breeding plumage. The skin was examined by Dr. Josselyn Van Tyne, of the University of Michigan, who compared it with the museum collection and verified the identification. Two more specimens were taken on August 13, 1939. In all probability, this sandpiper occurs here in more numbers than heretofore suspected.

Buff-Breasted Sandpiper (Tryngites subruficollis)—Three individuals of this species were observed walking among the rocks and sandhills on the Falls on September 17, 1936. Two were collected. On August 27, 1938, another bird was collected and presented to the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History. These sandpipers were also observed August 26, 1938, two birds; September 11, 1938, one bird. (Auk, 55:678, 1938).

Sanderling (Crocethia alba)—These birds are seen here in flocks of twenty or thirty individuals and appear each year with regularity. They have been recorded from early August to October 12. Two specimens, taken August 2, 1936, show traces of the brownish breeding plumage. A third specimen, taken September 11, 1937, has changed to the winter plumage completely.

Wilson's Phalarope (Steganopus tricolor)—One bird was seen on Lentz's Pond near Six Mile Island on May 6 and 7, 1933. One bird was seen on the Falls on September 28, 1937.

Herring Gull (Larus argentatus smithsonianus)—The most abundant Gull of our region. Many hundreds winter here, arriving as early as September 28, and remaining as late as May 5. A favorite place for them is Sand Island, below the Falls of the Ohio, where they gather in great numbers in mid-winter.

Ring-Billed Gull (Larus delawarensis)—Seen often with the Herring Gull but not nearly so plentiful. A specimen, an immature bird, was taken on the Falls of the Ohio August 31, 1936.

Bonaparte's Gull (Larus philadelphia)—These Gulls usually appear in the harbor about April 8, although an occasional bird is seen as early as March 27. About thirty of them fed in the harbor on April 8, 9, and 10, 1937, and about the same number on April 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, 1938.

Forster's Tern (Sterna forsteri)—Many of these Terns accompany the Common and Black Terns on the Falls and along the river. Specimens were taken on August 30, 1936, and identified by the outer white web of the tail as in contrast to the darker outer web of the Common Tern.

Common Tern (Sterna hirundo hirundo)—Seen in fair numbers with the Forster's and Black Terns. Recorded in April, May, August, and September. Specimen taken on the Falls on October 4, 1936.

Least Tern (Sterna antillarum antillarum)—Although found breeding in Fulton County, this small Tern is not recorded often at Louisville. Records here since the beginning of this study consist of three birds found in the vicinity of the Falls on September 10, 1933, and one bird on August 2, 1934.

Caspian Tern (Hydroprogne caspia imperator)—This Tern is a very regular autumn migrant to the Falls of the Ohio, appearing as early as August 4, and recorded regularly from August 21 through September 20; most often seen in groups of two, three, or four birds but has been seen in flocks numbering as high as fifteen.

Black Tern (Chlidonias nigra surinamensis)—The most abundant of the Terns in this region and plentiful on the Falls in autumn. Most of the birds seen here are in the pied plumage but an occasional individual in the black plumage is found, one such specimen being taken August 22, 1937. Other specimens were secured August 23, 1936.

* * * * * *

MISS SCHNEIDER IN ALASKA

Miss Evelyn Schneider attended several sessions of the American Ornithologists' Union and the all-day field trip in California this summer. The Cooper Ornitholigists' Club were hosts and, according to Miss Schneider, left nothing to be desired in hospitality. After this meeting Miss Schneider went by steamer to Alaska. She writes to the editor: "I added several birds to my life list. Ravens were as common as Crows here; Bald Eagles became so numerous that we ceased to record them; beautiful Violet-green Swallows abounded all through the country; and seeing at close range such birds as Surf Scoters, White-winged Scoters, Little Brown Cranes, Pomarine Jaegers, Black-footed Albatrosses, Bohemian Waxwings, and hearing throughout most of the interior the song of the Hermit Thrush—all gave us tremendous thrills. Alaska is a most marvelous country—to visit."

* * * * * *

BROOKS HILL TRIP

Our president, Burt Monroe, and Bobby Mengel had a great trip to Brooks Hill, in Bullitt County, on June 24. They report having found plenty of Scarlet Tanagers, Hooded Warblers and Pine Warblers on the high elevations there. Burt also barely escaped at bite from a copperhead and came away jittery.

* * * * * *

CERULEAN WARBLER AT AUDUBON PARK

On June 6, 1939, I visited the Audubon Memorial Park, at Henderson. While I was eating lunch near the Shelter House, I heard the song of the Cerulean Warbler. Naturally I tried to find the bird, but the best I could do was to determine that the song was coming from one group of trees. The song was somewhat intermittent, and during the silent periods I ate. After lunch I selected a place that gave me a good view of the group of trees. After about fifteen minutes I had the satisfaction of seeing the bird and watching it while it sang. I do not know the summer status o fthe Cerulean but thought its presence in Audubon Park worthy of mention.

—W. M. WALKER, JR., Knoxville, Tenn.

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SUMMER RECORDS FROM CUMBERLAND NATIONAL FOREST

By ROBERT M. MENGEL

Mr. Edgar Ritchie and I, both of Louisville, were very fortunate in spending the period of July 2-7, 1939, near the Rockcastle River in Laurel County, Kentucky. The area lies in the Cumberland National Forest on the Cumberland Plateau, at an altitude which ranges from 1000 to 1300 feet. The closest town of any size is London, twenty miles northwest. The region is characterized by the typical wilderness of the Cumberland Plateau, with Jersey and short leaf pines mingling with oak on the uplands and hemlock prevailing in the valleys. The underlying sandstone shows in the form of many sheer cliffs, especially where the Rockcastle River has carved out its deep gorge. This rugged terrain is ideally suited to many wilder and more unusual forms of bird and animal life, and many miles of it are virtually unexplored. According to apparently reliable information gleaned from one of the older residents, the Raven left the locality close to fifteen years ago and the eagles (both species) about the same time. The Duck Hawk still remains and breeds in at least one fine bluff on the river. Interesting tales were told of days when Ravens croaked continually from the valley and when young stock suffered heavily from the ravages of Golden Eagles. In the unbroken wilderness stretching to the north and south of the Rockcastle it seems possible that a few of these may remain. In the six days spent in the forest 68 species of birds were listed, about ten of which, however, were seen only in cleared land on the fringes of the wooded places. Here is an annotated list of the birds recorded:

Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura septentrionalis)—A few were noted each day.

Sharp-Shinned Hawk (Accipiter velox velox)—One was seen flying across a CCC road on July 5.

Cooper's Hawk (Accipiter cooperi)—Two recorded.

Red-Tailed Hawk (Buteo borealis borealis)—Only two seen, both on the last day.

Duck Hawk (Falco peregrinus anatum)—A single bird was seen soaring high above some cliffs on the Pulaski County side of the river on July 5. On the next day an eyrie was found in the face of a 130-foot sheer cliff on the Laurel County side at the head of Rockcastle Narrows. This was invisible from its own side of the River and was not seen until we had swum the river. It is perhaps the only definitely known Peregrine nest in Kentucky, although there should be other pairs about many of the splendid cliffs of the forest.

Eastern Sparrow Hawk (Falso sparverius sparverius)—Strangely not seen by us but said by the residents to be common.

Ruffed Grouse (Bonasa umbellus subsp.)—A grouse was flushed on the afternoon of March 29, when I first visited the area, and another on July 2. Recent investigations indicate that Kentucky grouse might be the northern form (togata), but, until this is established, we must remain uncertain.

Eastern Bob-White (Colinus virginianus virginianus)—Fairly common.

Mourning Dove (Zenaidura macroura carolinensis)—A few were seen in cleared places.

Yellow-Billed Cuckoo (Coccyzus Americana)—Fairly common.

Great Horned Owl (Bubo virginianus virginianus)—Heard hooting near camp almost every night. Common.

Whip-Poor-Will (Antrostomus vociferus vociferus)—Common; as many as five heard every night.

Chimney Swift (Chaetura pelagica)—Common.

Ruby-Throated Hummingbird (Archilochus colubris)—Noted on five occasions.

Northern Flicker (Colaptes auratus luteus)—Fairly common.

Southern Pileated Woodpecker (Ceophloeus pileatus pileatus)—Seven seen and heard during our stay.

Red-Bellied Woodpecker (Centurus carolinus)—Only three recorded.

Red-Headed Woodpecker (Melanerpes erythrocephalus)—Only one seen.

Eastern Hairy Woodpecker (Dryobates villosus villosus)—Two were recorded, on July 5 and 6, respectively.

Northern Downy Woodpecker (Dryobates pubescens medianus)—Fairly common.

Red-Cockaded Woodpecker (Dryobates borealis)—A flock of six was observed on July 2, two on July 6, and four on July 7, all in two small pine groves. They were closely observed on all occasions and each time were discovered by their continual chattering. This is one of the first records of this rare woodpecker in Kentucky.

Eastern Kingbird (Tyrannus tyrannus)—Fairly common.

Northern Crested Flycatcher (Myiarchus crinitus boreus)—Common.

Eastern Phoebe (Sayornis phoebe)—Fairly numerous; nests in the crevices of the cliffs.

Acadian Flycatcher (Empidonax virescens)—Recorded twice along the river bank.

Eastern Wood Pewee (Myiochanes virens)—Judged fourth most abundant bird recorded during our stay.

Purple Martin (Progne subis subis)—A few noted in the forest. Very abundant about London, where a flock estimated at over 1000 roosts near the courthouse.

Florida Blue Jay (Cyanocitta cristata florincola)—Not very common. A specimen taken at Pickett Forest, Tennessee, 40 miles southwest, in June, 1937, indicates that the southern form breeds on the Plateau.

Crow (Corvus brachyrhynchos subsp.)—Fairly common; probably the southern form.

Carolina Chickadee (Penthestes carolinensis carolinensis)—Common.

Tufted Titmouse (Baeolophus bicolor)—Quite common.

Northern White-Breasted Nuthatch (Sitta carolinensis carolinesis)—At least one every day.

Bewick's Wren (Thryomanes bewicki bewicki)—Heard singing around some of the farms.

Carolina Wren (Thryothorus ludovicianus ludovicianus)—Fairly common.

Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottus)—Noted about clearings and on the road.

Catbird (Dumetella carolinensis)—Quite common everywhere.

Eastern Brown Thrasher (Toxostoma rufum)—Only two recorded.

Eastern Robin (Turdus migratorius migratorius)—Fairly common in open woods.

Wood Thrush (Hylocichla mustelina)—Common at all times.

Bluebird (Sialia sialis sialis)—Fairly common.

Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher (Polioptila caerulea caerulea)—Three found on July 6.

Starling (Sturnus vulgaris)—It has established itself around London and is beginning to make its appearance in the woods.

White-Eyed Vireo (Vireo griscus griscus)—Common.

Yellow-Throated Vireo (Vireo flavifrons)—At least one listed each day.

Red-Eyed Vireo (Vireo olivaceus)—Common.

Black and White Warbler (Mniotilta varia)—Fairly common along streams.

Black-Throated Green Warbler (Dendroica virens virens)—Common, mostly in the hemlocks along the streams.

Pine Warbler (Dendroica pinus pinus)—Abundant in all pine woods.

Prairie Warbler (Dendroica discolor discolor)—Vied with the Hooded Warbler for the honor of being the most common bird.

Oven-Bird (Seiurus aurocapillus)—Frequently heard and seen.

Louisiana Water-Thrush (Seiurus motacilla)—Recorded once, on Cain Creek, a tributary of the Rockcastle River.

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(Includes membership to state organization and local chapters)

Kentucky Warbler (Oporornis formosus)—Common.

Maryland Yellow-Throat (Geothlypis trichas trichas)—Fairly common in clearings.

Yellow-Breasted Chat (Icteria virens virens)—Common and noisy.

Hooded Warbler (Wilsonia citrina)—Very common; heard almost continuously.

English Sparrow (Passer domesticus)—Seen about the farms.

Eastern Meadowlark (Sturnella magna magna)—Observed three times along the CCC road into the forest.

Grackle (Quiscalus quiscula subsp.)—Quite a number were encountered near London; these may be the eastern variety or intermediates.

Summer Tanager (Piranga rubra)—Common at all times.

Eastern Cardinal (Richmondena cardinalis cardinalis)—Fairly common, even in thick timber.

Indigo Bunting (Passerina cyanea)—Common.

Goldfinch (Spinus tristis tristis)—Seen several times.

Red-Eyed Towhee (Pipilo erythrophthalmus)—Common.

Grasshopper Sparrow (Ammodramus savannarum australis)—Five recorded in small fields along the road.

Scarlet Tanager (Piranga erythromelas)—Rather common, mostly in higher places.

Bachman's Sparrow (Aimophila aestivalis bachmani)—Heard singing on at least six occassions.

Chipping Sparrow (Spizella passerina passerina)—Rather common.

Field Sparrow (Spizella pusilla pusilla)—Common.

Song Sparrow (Melospiza melodia subsp.)—Recorded twice at London. This is an unusually southern record. The Laurel County birds may represent the Eastern Song Sparrow rather than the Mississippi.

The following birds were not recorded but should occur in the Forest as summer residents: Green Heron, Black Vulture, Broad-Winged Hawk, Killdeer, Black Billed Cuckoo, Screech Owl, Barred Owl, Nighthawk, Belted Kingfisher, Cedar Waxwing, Golden-Winged Warbler, Blue-Winged Warbler, Parula Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Yellow-Throated Warbler subsp., Redstart, and Rough-Winged Swallow.

* * *

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therefore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Virgil D. King, Secretary-Treasurer, 2324 Bonnycastle Ave., Louisville, Ky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in the Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Teachers College, Bowling Green, Ky.

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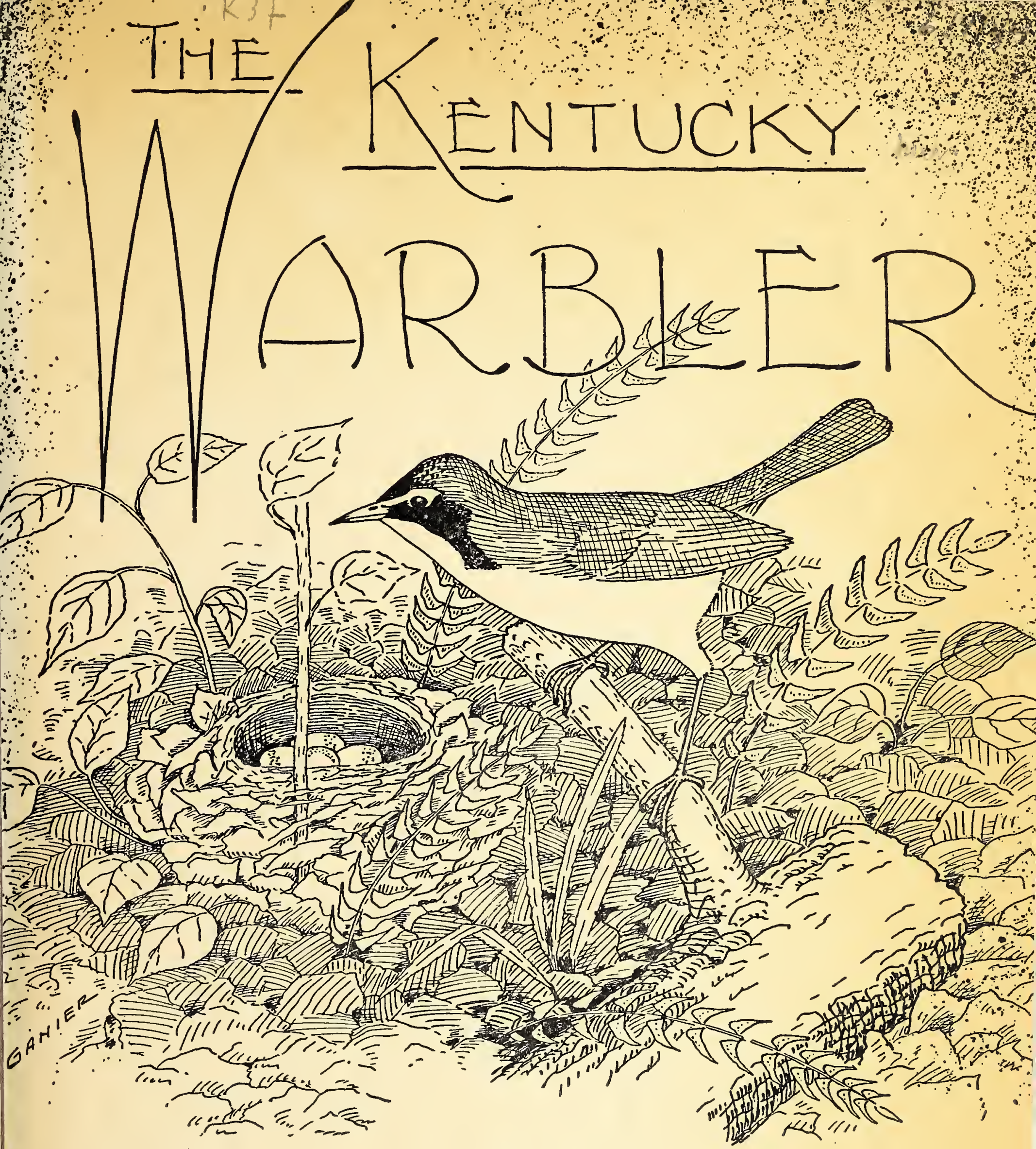
THE KENTUCKY WARBLER



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"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

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OUR FALL MEETINGS

The fifteenth annual fall meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society was held at Paducah on Friday and Saturday, October 20 and 21. On Friday evening at the Irvin Cobb Hotel we were greeted by representatives of the Paducah Junior Chamber of Commerce; to this greeting Dr. Gordon Wilson responded by giving a brief history of the society. Major Joseph Brown, the head of the Conservation Department of Kentucky, discussed the attitude of his department toward wild life in Kentucky. Mr. James Boswell Young read an interesting paper on "Bird Banding," enumerating many of his choicest experiences as a bander.

Saturday, October 21, was devoted to two outings and an evening program. The first outing took us to Lake Genevieve, a good-sized private lake near Reidland; in the afternoon we went to some reforestation projects, led by Mr. Forrest Durand, of the Soil Conservation Service. In spite of the very dry and warm weather we had good success in finding birds: Bluebird, Robwhite, Red-winged Blackbird, Catbird, Cardinal, Crow, Brown Creeper, Dove, Flicker, Goldfinch, Bronzed Grackle, Pied-billed Grebe, Sparrow Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Blue Jay, Junco, Killdeer, Kingfisher, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Meadowlark, Prairie Horned Lark, Mockingbird, Phoebe, Robin, Solitary Sandpiper, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, English Sparrow, Tufted Titmouse, Hermit Thrush, Towhee, Myrtle Warbler, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Winter Wren, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Great Blue Heron, Blue Goose (a flock of 25, probably the first record for Paducah), Pintail, Rusty Blackbird, Starling, Canada Goose.

In the evening, again at the Irvin Cobb Hotel, Dr. Wilson discussed "Methods of Bird Study," and Mr. Forrest Durand spoke on "Efforts of the Soil Conservation Service to Improve Conditions for Bird Life in Kentucky."

Because there were so few of our members present, the business session was postponed until the meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Club, in Louisville, on Friday, November 24, where the following officers were elected for the next year:

President—Miss Evelyn Schneider, Louisville.

Vice-President—Dr. L. Y. Lancaster, Bowling Green.

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Secretary-Treasurer—Mr. Virgil D. King, Falmouth.

Councillors—

Eastern—Major Victor K. Dodge, Lexington.

Central—Mr. Floyd S. Carpenter, Louisville.

Western—Miss Shirley Durham, Paducah.

Former Presidents—Dr. T. Atchison Frazer, Marion; Mr. B. C. Bacon, Madisonville; Dr. Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green; Mr. Burt L. Monroe, Louisville.

A committee was appointed to revise the constitution and present it at the spring meeting. The Pindar Fund was authorized to be invested in Building and Loan stock. Numerous discussions were given about bird study and protection. There were twenty-five members present and voting.

* * * * * *

CHRISTMAS CENSUSES

We have an excellent number of Christmas censuses, from our members within the state and from some of our members in Tennessee, Indiana, and Michigan. There are 86 species on the State lists, a new high for us. The editor wishes to thank every one of the contributors for making this our best census.

* * * * * *

Nashville Tenn. (Radnor Lake, Overton Hills, Warner Parks, Bellmeade, Westmeade, Hill Estate, River Road and bottoms, Paradise Ridge, Marrowbone Lake, and suburbs of Nashville). Dec. 24: 4 A. M. to 5 P. M. Ground bare and wet; no wind; temp. 34 at start, 41 at 4 P. M. Seventeen observers in 6 groups, as follows: Party I, 4 observers, 15 hours, 15 miles afoot; Party II, 4 observers, 9 hours, 5 miles afoot; Party III, 3 observers, 6½ hours, 2 miles afoot; Party IV, 3 observers, 5 hours, 3 miles afoot; Party V, 2 observers, 4½ hours, 5 miles afoot; Party VI, 2 observers, 7 hours, 3 miles afoot. Total miles afoot, 33; total hours afoot, 37. Horned Grebe, 2 (on Cumberland River): Pied-billed Grebe, 1; Common Mallard, 9; Black Duck, 21; Gadwall, 1; Ring-necked Duck, 23; Lesser Scaup, 10; American Golden-eye, 5; Hooded Merganser, 21; Turkey Vulture, 7; Black Vulture, 57; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 2; Cooper's Hawk, 2; Red-tailed Hawk, 8; Marsh Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 24; Bob-white, 53; Killdeer, 34; Woodcock, 2; Wilson's Snipe, 3; Mourning Dove, 3; Barn Owl, 1; Screech Owl, 1; Great Horned Owl, 3; Barred Owl, 2; Kingfisher, 4; Flicker, 60; Pileated Woodpecker, 5; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 13; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 10; Downy Woodpecker, 40; Phoebe, 4; Horned Lark, 210; Blue Jay, 26; Crow, 350; Carolina Chickadee, 102; Tufted Titmouse, 60; White-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Brown Creeper, 1; Winter Wren, 10; Bewick's Wren, 7; Carolina Wren, 42; Mockingbird, 112; Robin, 684; Hermit Thrush, 4; Bluebird, 103; American Pipit, 53 (1 flock); Migrant Shrike, 1; Starling, 11,200 (5,000 at a roost in magnolias); Myrtle Warbler, 26; English Sparrow, 65; Meadowlark, 35; Rusty Blackbird, 314; Bronzed Grackle, 4 (a flock of 1,500 seen two days later); Cowbird, 30; Cardinal, 285; Purple Finch, 45; Goldfinch, 54; Towhee, 47; Savannah Sparrow, 4; Slate-colored Junco, 252; Field Sparrow, 62; White-crowned Sparrow, 14; White-throated Sparrow, 260; Fox Sparrow, 16; Swamp Sparrow, 59; Song Sparrow, 55. Total, 68 species; 15,007 individuals. A Red-headed Woodpecker was seen on December 26.

—Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Abernathy, Paul Bryant, John B. Calhoun, Albert F. Ganier (compiler), Conrad Jamison, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Laskey, Mary Lee, Francis Lawrence, Arthur McMurray, C. E. Pearson, John Pritchett, Leo Rippy, Jr., J. A. Robins, William Simpson, H. S. Vaughn, and G. B. Woodring. (Twenty-fifth annual census of Nashville Chapter, Tennessee Ornithological Society).

* * * * * *

Johns Run, Carter County—December 26; 9:00 A. M. to 4:15 P. M. Cloudy, with about two inches of snow; temp. 28 to 34. About 8 miles on foot in wooded and open-field aceas. Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Mourning Dove, 19; Flicker, 4; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Crow, 9; Carolina Chickadee, 22; Tufted Titmouse, 12; Carolina Wren, 7; Hermit Thrush, 1; Starling, 5; Cardinal, 22; Goldfinch, 4; Red-eyed Towhee, 1; Slate-colored Junco, 58; Tree Sparrow, 25; Field Sparrow, 20; Song Sparrow, 42. Total, 18 species, 254 individuals.

—ERCEL KOZEE.

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Anchorage, (Anchorage, areas around Worthington, O'Bannon, Harrod's Creek, and Gotion; Ohio River; and connecting roads). Dec. 23; 3 A. M. to 5 P. M. overcast, snow in afternoon; wind, light, southeast; temp. 29 at start, 35 at return. Observers in groups as follows: Party I, 1 observer, 7 hours, 5 miles afoot; Party II, 1 observer, 6 hours, 3 miles afoot; Party III, 2 observers, 7 hours, 2 miles afoot; Party IV, 2 observers, 5 hours, 4 miles afoot; each party also worked from cars at some times. Total miles afoot, 14; total miles by auto, 65; total hours, 25. Common Loon, 1; Horned Grebe, 3; Great Blue Heron, 1; Common Mallard, 1000 (est.); Black Duck (probably both races), 1500 (est.); Pintail, 7; Ring-necked Duck, 10; Lesser Scaup Duck, 34; American Golden-eye, 2; Bufflehead, 3; Ruddy Duck, 1; Hooded Merganser, 14; American Merganser, 10; Cooper's Hawk, 3; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Red-shouldered Hawk, 4; Bald Eagle, 1; Marsh Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 35; Bob-white, 1 covey (number undetermined); Killdeer, 3; Herring Gull, 43; Ring-billed Gull, 3; Mourning Dove, 150 (est. of 1 flock); Screech Owl, 3; Great Horned Owl, 2; Barred Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 3; Flicker, 5; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 14; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 4; Downy Woodpecker, 34; Northern Horned Lark 25 (est.); Prairie Horned Lark, 275 (est. of one flock of about 300, mixed); Blue Jay, 22; Crow, 600 (est.); Carolina Chickadee, 83; Tufted Titmouse, 125; White-breasted Nuthatch, 7; Brown Creeper, 2; Winter Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 23; Mockingbird, 13; Robin, 1; Bluebird, 15; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 15; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 3; Migrant Shrike, 1; Starling, 2000 (est.); English Sparrow, 400 (est.); Meadowlark, 44; Red-winged Blackbird, 3; Bronzed Grackle, 1; Cowbird, 1; Cardinal, 140; Purple Finch, 11; Goldfinch, 3; Towhee, 2; Slate-colored Junco, 550 (est.); Tree Sparrow, 175; Field Sparrow, 4; White-crowned Sparrow, 16; White-throated Sparrow, 31; Fox Sparrow, 1; Swamp Sparrow, 3; Song Sparrow, 28. Total, 68 species; 7681 (est.) individuals. The following species were also seen during the week of the census: Baldpate (2) and Black Vulture (1) on Dec. 17 and Rough-legged Hawk (1) on Dec. 21. The Great Blue Heron was observed, with binoculars and 25x telescope at 250 yards, in flight over the river.

—E. C. Hume, Jr., James LaFollette, Robert M. Mengel, and Burt L. Monroe (Members of the Rafinesque Ornithological Club).

Falmouth (Watershed of Middle Fork of Grassy Creek in Grant and Pendleton Counties, a triangular area of 28,000 acres)—Dec. 30; 7:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Morning cloudy; afternoon clear; temp. 22 at start, 28 at return; ground covered with six inches of snow; 47 miles by automobile, 1½ miles on foot. Turkey Vulture, 2; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Marsh Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 6; Killdeer, 1; (heard calling overhead after dark); Mourning Dove, 1; Screech Owl, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 15; Blue Jay, 1; Crow, 59; Carolina Chickadee, 112; Tufted Titmouse, 46; Winter Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 11; Mockingbird, 2; Bluebird, 7; Starling, 81; English Sparrow, 225; Bronzed Grackle, 1; Cardinal, 44; Purple Finch, 1; Goldfinch, 4; Red-eyed Towhee, 12; Slate-colored Junco, 168; Tree Sparrow, 78; White-crowned Sparrow, 12; White-throated Sparrow, 8; Swamp Sparrow, 5; Song Sparrow, 36. Total, 33 species, 949 individuals.

—VIRGIL D. KING.

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Bloomingdale, Ind. (from Madden Farm west to Adams Levee along the Wabash River and return by way of the Rockport Hills, all well within a 15-mile diameter). Dec. 26; 8:00 A. M. to 3.00 P. M., cloudy, wind, northeast, light; temp. 24 at start, 28 at return. On foot 6 miles, by auto 30 miles, observer alone. Mallard, 11; Wood Duck, 4; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Marsh Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Flicker, 30; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 5; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 26; Prairie Horned Lark, 52; Blue Jay, 7; Crow, 415; Carolina Chickadee, 3; Tufted Titmouse, 21; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Carolina Wren, 1; Bluebird, 12; Starling, 115; English Sparrow, 126; Cardinal, 26; Goldfinch, 11; Slate-colored Junco, 53; Tree Sparrow, 165; Song Sparrow, 15. Total, 24 species, 1,107 individuals. Other species seen on the Madden Farm almost every day of the census period: Bob-white, Mourning Dove, Meadowlark, and Cowbird.

—DOROTHY MADDEN HOBSON.

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Tolu (McMurray and Hurricane Creeks; ten-mile area on Ohio River, in Crittenden County)—Dec. 28; 8:30 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Observer alone. Pied-billed Grebe, 4; Canada Goose, 52; Brant, 170; Mallard, approximately 5,000 on Ohio River nearly opposite Cave-Inn Rock State Park, Illinois; Pintail, 87; Lesser Scaup, approximately 500; Wood Duck, 20; American Merganser, 37; Cooper's Hawk, 3; Red-tailed Hawk, 11; Bald Eagle, 3; Osprey, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 5; Bob-white, 154; Killdeer, 18; Wilson's Snipe, 23; (?) Sandpiper, 28; Mourning Dove, 90; Screech Owl, 4; Great Horned Owl, 4; Belted Kingfisher, 7; Flicker, 11; Pileated Woodpecker, 4; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 10; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Prairie Horned Lark, 40; Blue Jay, 22; Crow, 2500 (est.); Carolina Chickadee, 22; Tufted Titmouse, 14; White-breasted Nuthatch, 7; Brown Creeper, 3; Bewick's Wren, 6; Carolina Wren, 8; Mockingbird, 7; Bluebird, 15; Migrant Shrike, 4; Starling, 25; Myrtle Warbler, 10; Meadowlark, 3; Red-winged Blackbird, 21; Bronzed Grackle, 18; Cowbird, 14; Cardinal, 102; Purple Finch, 19; Goldfinch, 5; Slate-colored Junco, 24; Field Sparrow, 2; White-throated Sparrow, 8; Fox Sparrow, 15. Total, 50 species, 9164 (est.) individuals.

—CHARLES JONES.

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Marion (Various sections of Crittenden County)—Dec. 17., temp. 46; no wind; clear. Mallard, 20; Black Vulture, 2; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 6; Bob-white, 24; Dove, 2; Screech Owl, 2; Flicker, 10; Pileated Woodpecker, 7; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 9; Hairy Woodpecker, 9; Prairie Horned Lark, 24; Blue Jay, 13; Crow, 65; Carolina Chickadee, 36; Tufted Titmouse, 45; Marsh Wren, 1; Bewick's Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 11; Mockingbird, 13; Robin, 2; Bluebird, 32; Migrant Shrike, 4; Starling, 22; Meadowlark, 5; Cowbird, 14; Cardinal, 69; Goldfinch, 2; Towhee, 5; Slate-colored Junco, 162; Field Sparrow, 16; Chipping Sparrow, 2; Tree Sparrow, 2; Vesper Sparrow, 2; White-crowned Sparrow, 2; White-throated Sparrow, 3; Fox Sparrow, 4; Swamp Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 7. Total, 40 species, 659 individuals.

—C. L. AND DR. T. ATCHISON FRAZER.

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Glasgow (Richey, Starr, Darter, Wininger Farms; along Beaver Creek)—Dec. 24; 7:20 A. M. to 4:10 P. M. Clear, light snow on ground; wind, N. E., strong; temp. 31. Twelve miles on foot. Turkey Vulture, 8; Black Vulture, 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Marsh Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Bob-white, 22; Mourning Dove, 8; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Flicker, 4; Pileated Woodpecker, 4; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 9; Prairie Horned Lark, 5; Blue Jay, 11; Crow, 589; Carolina Chickadee, 38; Tufted Titmouse, 42; Winter Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 17; Mockingbird, 1; Bluebird, 7; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 8; Migrant Shrike, 1; Myrtle Warbler, 4; English Sparrow, 27; Cardinal, 41; Purple Finch, 13; Goldfinch, 46; Red-eyed Towhee, 4; Slate-colored Junco, 182; Tree Sparrow, 51; Field Sparrow, 21; White-crowned Sparrow, 5; White-throated Sparrow, 65; Fox Sparrow, 8; Swamp Sparrow, 7; Song Sparrow, 29. Total, 39 species, 1291 individuals. There had been a light fall of snow the night before, and the wind was still wild. There were few birds to be seen until near noon, when the sun became very bright. The oddity of the census was the failure to find two very common species, the Starling and the Meadowlark.

—RUSSELL STARR.

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Springfield, Tenn. (Large marshy area between Springfield and Cedar Hill)—Dec. 31; 9:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Fair in morning; cloudy in afternoon. No wind; temp. 13 at start, 25 at return. Observers in two parties, about six miles on foot. Turkey Vulture, 3; Red-shouldered Hawk, 2; Marsh Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 4; Bob-white, 9; Killdeer, 5; Mourning Dove, 19; Barred Owl, 2; Flicker, 37; Pileated Woodpecker, 4; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 22; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 30; Prairie Horned Lark, 11; Blue Jay, 51; Crow, 96; Carolina Chickadee, 23; Tufted Titmouse, 75; White-breasted Nuthatch, 6; Brown Creeper, 2; Carolina Wren, 35; Mockingbird, 5; Robin, 3; Hermit Thrush, 8; Bluebird, 8; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Migrant Shrike, 2; Starling, 11; Myrtle Warbler, 21; English Sparrow, 16; Meadowlark, 147; Rusty Blackbird, 63; Bronzed Grackle, 18; Cardinal, 70; Purple Finch, 7; Goldfinch, 9; Red-eyed Towhee, 77; Savannah Sparrow, 8; Slate-colored Junco, 159; Tree Sparrow, 29; Field Sparrow, 21; White-crowned Sparrow, 1; White-throated Sparrow, 44; Fox Sparrow, 2; Song Sparrow, 11. Total, 46 species, 1178 individuals.

—John B. Calhoun, Conrad Jamison, Jr., Arthur McMurray, A. F. Ganier, William Simpson, and Gordon Wilson.

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Louisville (Ohio River from Sixth Street to Taylor Creek; Cherokee Park, Cave Hill Cemetery, Indian Hills, Prospect area and adjacent territory, by car and on foot)—Dec. 17; 7 A. M. to 4 P. M.

Clear; wind, S. W., light; temp. 49 at start, 59 at return. Observers in groups as follows: Party I, 5 observers, 10 miles by car, 7 afoot, 8 hours; Party II, 1 observer, 30 miles by car, 3 afoot, 9 hours; Party III, 3 observers, 10 miles by car, 10 afoot, 15 hours; Party IV, 1 observer, 1 mile afoot, 1 hour; Party V, 1 observer, 3 miles afoot, 3 hours; Party VI, 1 observer, 4 miles afoot, 4 hours. Total miles by car, 50; total miles afoot, 28; total hours, 40. Pied-billed Grebe, 1 (first Christmas census record; seen on Ohio River near Indian Hills Road and watched through 24x glasses by Miss Slack and Dr. Lovell); Mallard, 6; Wood Duck, 8 (first Christmas census record; seen on lake at Sleepy Hollow by Miss Schneider and party); Lesser Scaup, 3; American Golden-eye, 5; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 4; Marsh Hawk, 3; Sparrow Hawk, 30; Bob-white, 8; Killdeer, 3; Wilson's Snipe (first Christmas census record; seen by Mr. Carpenter near Goose Creek); Herring Gull, 2; Mourning Dove, 1; Screech Owl, 1 (found dead); Barred Owl, 2; Belted Kingfisher, 8; Flicker, 7; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 13; Hairy Woodpecker, 6; Downy Woodpecker, 26; Prairie Horned Lark, 8; Blue Jay, 28; Crow, 154; Carolina Chickadee, 78; Tufted Titmouse, 82; White-breasted Nuthatch, 10; Brown Creeper, 8; Winter Wren, 6; Carolina Wren, 25; Mockingbird, 33; Robin, 8; Bluebird, 13; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 5; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 3 (first Christmas census record; seen by Miss Schneider and party); Cedar Waxwing, 8; Migrant Shrike, 2; Starling, 14,000 (estimate of those roosting on buildings in downtown area); Myrtle Warbler, 2; English Sparrow, 109; Meadowlark, 20; Cardinal, 108; Purple Finch, 7; Goldfinch, 30; Red-eyed Towhee, 10; Slate-colored Junco, 250; Tree Sparrow, 92; Field Sparrow, 5; White-crowned Sparrow, 46 (3 flocks); Fox Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 38. Total, 52 species, 15,329 individuals. White throated Sparrows were seen during the census week, but are very rare this winter. The rarity of the ducks was due to the open winter thus far.

—Leonard C. Brecher, Floyd S. Carpenter, W. M. Clay, Amy Deane, James LaFollette, Vera Henderson, Harvey B. Lovell, Helen Peil, Evelyn Schneider, Mabel Slack, Audrey Wright, Emilie Yunker—Members of the Beckham Bird Club, Louisville Chapter of the Kentucky Ornithological Society.

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Hueysville, Floyd County (Along Beaver Creek and return by way of wooded mountainside)—Dec. 25; 9:00 A. M. to 3:00 P. M. Clear; six inches of snow; temp. 25 to 32. Total miles, 4; observer alone. Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bob-white, 3; Mourning Dove, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Carolina Chickadee, 9; Tufted Titmouse, 5; Carolina Wren, 15; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Starling, 20; English Sparrow, 15; Red-winged Blackbird, 20; Meadowlark, 15; Cardinal, 20; Goldfinch, 4; Slate-colored Junco, 25; Field Sparrow, 8; Song Sparrow, 15. Total, 19 species, 186 individuals.

—JOHN A. PATTEN.

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Science Hill—Dec. 25; 8:00 to 10:00 A. M. and 1:30 to 3:00 P. M. Clear; two inches of snow; temp. 25 to 35; two miles through fields and swamp lands; observers together. Bob-white, 4; Mourning Dove, 20; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 2; Crow, 15; Carolina Chickadee, 9; Tufted Titmouse, 15; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Carolina Wren, 6; Mockingbird, 4; English Sparrow, 25; Meadowlark, 100; Cardinal, 11; Goldfinch, 5; Slate-colored Junco, 80; Tree Sparrow, 2; Song Sparrow, 10. Total, 18 species, 312 individuals.

—BEN AND DAN WESLEY.

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McMillan, Luce County, Michigan—Dec. 25. Cloudy; 3 to 4 inches of snow; temp. 24 to 26; strong northwest wind; lake frozen over since December 15. Covered 4½ miles, on foot, through cut-over land, woods, fields, and shore of McCormick Lake. Canada Ruffed Grouse, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 3; Black-capped Chickadee, 5; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Northern Shrike, 1; English Sparrow, 21; Common Redpoll, 1 (heard); Snow Bunting, 240. Total, 9 species, 275 individuals. Other species observed this month: Greater Prairie Chicken, Northern Downy Woodpecker, Starling and Canadian Pine Grosbeak. Weather conditions have been favorable for birds so far this season, since there have been no severe snow storms nor cold waves. The absence of Siskins, Crossbills, and others is due to a scarcity of cones on birches and evergreens, maple seeds, and beech nuts. Buds on birches, ironwoods, and hazel bushes—the favorite food for the Ruffed Grouse—are plentiful.

—OSCAR McKINLEY BRYENS.

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Bowling Green (Chaney, McElroy, Covington, Smith and Honaker farms; along Jennings Creek; along Drake's Creek)—Dec. 17; 6:45 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Clear; wind, southwest, light; temp. 45 at start, 60 at return. Observers in groups as follows: Party I, 2 observers, 12 miles on foot, 9½ hours; Party II, 2 observers, 12 miles on foot, 9½ hours; Party III, 2 observers, 12 miles on foot 6½ hours. Totals: hours, 25½; miles, 36. Diameter of area covered, 15 miles. Canada Goose, 11; Turkey Vulture, 25; Black Vulture, 9; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 5; Marsh Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 3; Bob-white, 3; Killdeer, 2; Wilson's Snipe, 1; Mourning Dove, 40; Screech Owl, 1; Barred Owl, 3; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Flicker, 25; Pileated Woodpecker, 8; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 15; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 33; Prairie Horned Lark, 98; Blue Jay, 56; Crow, 738; Carolina Chickadee, 94; Tufted Titmouse, 60; White-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Brown Creeper, 10; Bewick's Wren, 3; Carolina Wren, 44; Mockingbird, 36; Robin, 18; Hermit Thrush, 10; Bluebird, 81; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 5; Cedar Waxwing, 137; Migrant Shrike, 1; Starling, 1088; Myrtle Warbler, 46; English Sparrow, 388; Meadowlark, 73; Red-winged Blackbird, 22; Bronzed Grackle, 5; Cardinal, 129; Purple Finch, 22; Goldfinch, 80; Red-eyed Towhee, 15; Savannah Sparrow, 4; Slate-colored Junco, 220; Field Sparrow, 4; White-crowned Sparrow, 75; White-throated Sparrow, 44; Swamp Sparrow, 16; Song Sparrow, 51. Total, 54 species, 2913 individuals. Other species recorded during Christmas week: Mallard, Tree Sparrow, Winter Wren.

—Jo Allen Bryant, Charles Jones, L. Y. Lancaster, Russell Starr, Charles L. Taylor, Gordon Wilson.

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SOIL CONSERVATION AND BIRD LIFE

By FOREST DURAND

(Given at Paducah Meeting of K. O. S.)

It is with considerable hesitance that I come to speak before your group tonight, for although I have been interested in birds from my earliest remembrance, I fully realize my short-comings as an ornithologist. You have listened during this meeting to several very interesting addresses and discussions by people well versed in the field of bird lore, and I doubt if there is much that I can add to what they have said concerning the field of ornithology. Therefore, I wish to thank you for your courtesy in inviting me to speak at this time and also for the time which you have already allotted me today.

However, even though I might not be even an amateur ornithologist or be connected with this field of study in any way, I feel that through the service with which I am connected we have a common ground of thought and interest. As an ornithological group you are interested in bettering conditions for birds and related forms of wildlife. Primarily you are interested in the preservation of an adequate breeding stock and the maintenance of favorable environmental conditions of ample food, water, and cover. What is necessary for this? Land! And here is the common ground upon which we meet.

For land to be favorable to bird life it must be kept in a certain condition. The fertile topsoil must be held in place. It must not be allowed to wash down and choke up the streams and ponds where the Herons and Kingfishers live. The rolling hillsides must be kept in meadow and pasture to conserve the fertility of the soil and offer a home for Meadowlarks and Mourning Doves; the steep hillsides must be kept in woodland, which holds the land in place and furnishes a habitat for innumerable forms of wildlife; if gullies are present, they must be planted with trees and shrubs, which both rebuild the scarred soil and provide a home for Quail and Sparrows; if woodlands are unfenced, burned, and trampled by stock, they must be fenced in order to give young trees a chance to grow and furnish a haven for Warblers and Vireos; if fences cross the slope, they must be allowed to vegetate, form a barrier to erosion and a travel lane for the Mockingbird, the Cardinal, and the Catbird. If sheet-eroded pastures have been worn transparent by rain and overgrazing, they should be sown with sericea to rest and recuperate the tired earth and furnish food for birds. If ponds are being converted into stinking mud puddles, they must be protected from stock trampling and have their borders planted with vegetation in order that they may become healthful sources of drinking water for farm animals, things of beauty on the landscape, and homes for water fowl.

Soil conservation and wildlife conservation go hand in hand. They are inseparable. That thin, life-giving placenta, that source of all existence, both plant and animal, which spreads over the earth's surface and which has been worn through in far, far too many places—the soil must be restored and preserved. Without it there can be no birdlife or life of any other kind. Bare gullies produce no upland birds; sheet-eroded fields furnish no food for Killdeer, Quail, or Meadowlarks; passerine birds find scanty quarters in burned or stock-trampled woodlands; and sandpipers, grebes, or ducks find little encouragement in sand-clogged streams or muddy ponds.

These conditions must be improved, and, further than that, they must be improved on private lands, for most of the country still belongs to private individuals. If a state or federal agency sets up a refuge of one acre and private landowners clear off two acres of woodland, the total amount of land where birds might live has been reduced. If the State Conservation Department establishes a thousand-acre refuge and farmers througout the state cut down or burn two thousand acres of bushy fence rows, the sum total of wildlife area has been reduced. If a county builds a fifty-acre lake and on private land one hundred acres of ponds go dry or fill up with silt, our waterfowl and shorebirds have less territory than before. We may be able to go to these special public places and see interesting things, but it is the private land which must continue to produce the bulk of our birdlife.

It is here that the Soil Conservation Service comes into the picture, for this service, through its demonstration projects and CCC Camps, reaches out to the private landowner and the farmer and working with him establishes certain practices on his farm which both conserve the soil and improve conditions for wildlife. I have some figures which I would like to read to you. In the state of Kentucky on private lands cooperating with the Soil Conservation Service:

12,000 acres of trees have been planted. Many of these acres prior to planting were gullied shambles devoid of all life, both plant and animal. Usually borders of planting areas are set with trees and shrubs particularly suited to wildlife utilization.

Thousands of yards of cropland and pasture gullies have been set with shrubs and vines.

Approximately 4,000 acres of strip cropping have been established.

18,000 acres of existing woodlands, many of which were formerly devastated by the trampling feet of livestock, are now protected by fences.

Though these figures represent great improvements for birds and wildlife in this state, the farms upon which this work has been done are scattered. They are really only demonstrations. From this point on, whatever is accomplished depends largely upon to what extent private landowners adopt practices which have proved successful on these demonstration farms. I feel that organizations such as yours can accomplish much by encouraging such a spread of practice. Probably the Soil Conservation Districts Program, which has been started in thirty-six states, offers the greatest opportunity to date, for under this plan local landowners organize and administer a conservation program of their own.

These districts are authorized to call upon not only the Soil Conservation Service but any other federal or state agency which might be concerned for aid in carrying out their program. Every member of this society should acquaint himself with the possibilities of the Soil Conservation District Plan, for I sincerely believe that as these locally organized and administered conservation programs spread over the land, they will result in a great improvement of conditions for birdlife than anything which has been done since the whiteman first landed on these shores. I would like to again call your attention to the fact that under a district plan this betterment of conditions would not be confined to scattered farms but would spread over all lands composing a district.

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A BREEDING BIRD CENSUS

By VIRGIL D. KING

In the spring of 1937 the Soil Conservation Service planted black locust seedlings on a bare and badly gullied three-acre field on the farm of Francis S. Simpson (Grant County, Kentucky). Before the locusts were planted, the field yas fenced, and the owner agreed not to pasture the field for at least five years. These precautions were taken because over-grazing is closely associated with severe erosion; also, grazing often destroys the habitats of many forms of wildlife.

The field was so severely eroded and destitute of vegetation at the time of planting that few, if any forms of wildlife could have subsisted on it. The black locust seedlings have grown rapidly, and native vegetation has thrived under protection. As a result, a good cover has developed, and active erosion has been stopped.

The writer made a study during the past summer of the bird life on the field. The study attempted to determine how extensively the field was being utilized by birds. This information would indicate the extent to which the field had been made attractive to wildlife.

The first attempt to find nests was made on May 29. Five Field Sparrow nests, one Grasshopper Sparrow nest, and one Meadowlark nest were found. Subsequent observations of these nests and attempts to find other nests were made on June 2, June 10, June 20, July 13, July 21, August 9, and October 16.

Fifteen occupied nests of six different species were located: Field Sparrow, 7; Grasshopper Sparrow, 1; Indigo Bunting, 2; Meadow Lark, 1; Catbird, 3; and Yellow-breasted Chat, 1. The periodic observation indicated that young were successfully brooded in thirteen of these nests. The accompanying table gives additional data.

Eight unoccupied nests were found. Although unoccupied when found, there was evidence that most of these nests had been occupied by fledglings during the summer. The unoccupied nests were, for the most part, those of the Field Sparrow. Five of these nests were first found on October 16. These nests, together with two found on July 21 and August 9, respectively, indicate that at least seven different pairs of Field Sparrows reared two broods on the field.

Other birds observed feeding in the field were, Downy Woodpecker, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Red-eyed Towhee, Vesper Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Goldfinch, Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, and Yellow-billed Cuckoo.

It would be impossible to calculate the number of insects which the aforementioned birds consumed during the summer and even more difficult to estimate their value to the farmer. It can be safely concluded, though, that the bird-life-carrying capacity of the field has increased several hundred per cent since 1937.

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THE SONG SPARROW IN KENTUCKY

The request of the editor in our summer issue has already borne some fruit. You will recall that you were urged to report on the seasonal status of the Song Sparrow in your particular area of the state. Leonard C. Brecher reports that the species is found the year-round at Louisville. Robert Mengel found it in July at London. Dr. Wilfred A. Welter reports that it breeds in the mountains to the Tennessee line. Other items about the Song Sparrow would be appreciated by the editor.

Nests and Species	DATE OF OBSERVATION AND CONTENTS							LOCATION				
	May 29	June 2	June 10	June 20	July 13	July 21	Aug. 9	Locust	Ground	Crata-egus	Yar-row	Black-berry
Field Sparrow	3 young	3 young	empty						poverty grass x			
Field Sparrow	3 eggs	deserted							base of locust x			
Field Sparrow	2 eggs	4 eggs	2 eggs 2 young					1' up				
Field Sparrow	2 eggs 2 young	4 young	empty						base of locust x			
Field Sparrow	2 young	2 young	empty								x	
Grasshopper Sparrow	5 eggs	5 eggs	1 egg 4 young	1 egg infertile					x			
Meadowlark	3 eggs	4 eggs		4 young					x			
Indigo Bunting					4 eggs	4 young		6' up				
Indigo Bunting					3 eggs	4 eggs spilled on ground						x
Catbird					3 eggs	3 eggs		4' up				
Catbird					2 young	saw 1 young empty		5' up				
Yellow-breasted Chat					4 eggs	1 egg 3 tiny young	empty			x		
Catbird						3 eggs	2 big young	6' up				
Field Sparrow						3 eggs	empty					x
Field Sparrow							3 eggs					x

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A SOUTHERLY RECORD FOR THE SONG SPARROW IN SUMMER

The confluent waters of the Ohio and the Tennessee tend to mingle life zones in a way that we rarely find so far from the mountains. Southern forms and northern are thus made neighbors. In the tangles below Barkley Park in Paducah, the Song Sparrow is found during the summer and has even been found in the act of caring for young. They are also found on the small island, or sandy bar, north of the Brookport and Paducah bridge over the Ohio. Near the mountains we should expect them, of course, further south but not in such a south-like location. In 1938 a Song Sparrow record was entered at Paducah on June 21, and on June 24 it was found at Knoxville, Tennessee, while I was passing through that city. More than once it has been noted in the valleys at the foot of the mountains in western South Carolina. Apparently the bird is a fairly good index of Upper Austral or Carolinian Life Zone conditions, and here at Paducah we seem near the boundary between that zone and the Austroriparian or Louisianian.

—A. L. PICKENS, Paducah Junior College.

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VESPER SPARROWS IN SUMMER

Virgil D. King, our secretary-treasurer, reports that Vesper Sparrows are common in summer at Falmouth, where he has been stationed this summer with the Soil Conservation Service. Write the editor about the seasonal distribution of this species, please. At Bowling Green it is a migrant only, recorded regularly every spring and nearly every fall.

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MR. KING'S WORK

Mr. Virgil D. King, now with the Soil Conservation Service, writes: "Our Service plants thousands of trees each year in Kentucky. The planting areas are fenced against grazing. In fact, we will not plant a field until it is fenced, and the farmer has to agree to keep livestock out for at least five years. You can see right away that this procedure will benefit wild life. My job is to recommend plants which will supply food and cover for wild life. So far most of our plantings have been of black locust stock, but there is a tendency to use more pines and food-bearing species. I have made a breeding census on a three-acre locust planting during the summer. This census was an evaluation study of the value to wild life of locust plantations. I found 14 nests during my observations. I recorded the location of the nest, species occupying it, and the date located. I also recorded data on each nest on successive visits until the young left the nests. My last nest was that of a Field Sparrow, which had three eggs in it as late as August 9. I have been unable to get back since that date. I had hoped to find one or more Goldfinch nests but failed to do so."

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therfore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Virgil D. King, Secretary-Treasurer, Soil Conservation Service, Falmouth, Kentucky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in the Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Teachers College, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Vol. XVI SPRING, 1940 No. 2

THE McELROY FARM—A STUDY OF A TRANSIENT LAKE

By GORDON WILSON

In the September, 1929, issue of **The Wilson Bulletin** appeared "Bird Life of a Transient Lake in Kentucky," the summary of my observations for the year 1927 on the McElroy Farm. From time to time I have written other brief notes on this farm for **The Wilson Bulletin, Bird-Lore,** and **The Kentucky Warbler.** A grant by the American Association for the Advancement of Science through the Kentucky Academy of Science has enabled me to make additional studies of the farm and the transient lake and to bring together for this article all of my observations on this farm.

A large farm owned by Mrs. C. U. McElroy lies in southern Warren County, ten miles south of Bowling Green, Kentucky, and about a mile east of U. S. Highway 31-W. Rich Pond, a small village on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, is two miles northwest; Woodburn, a larger village, is about the same distance to the south. Most of the farm on the east side of the Trinity Road lies in a depression, which extends also into other farms and, in two places, across the road toward Rich Pond and Woodburn. The geological map for this quadrangle has never been completed, but from the map of the adjoining quadrangle I judge that the lowest level of the depression is some 550 feet above sea level, while the surrounding fields are 50 and 60 feet higher. There are no surface streams in any part of this area, as it is underlaid by the cavernous limestone formation, and the water courses are underground. In the Rich Pond-Woodburn section there are numerous depressions resembling this one, but only one other, on the Madison Farm, nearly two miles to the northwest, is noted for attracting water birds in large numbers. All of these depressions seem to be connected, as the water rises and falls in all of them at the same time.

After rainy seasons this depression, ordinarily cultivated in corn and other farm crops, becomes a temporary lake, fed by wet-weather springs. In most years the water stays up only a few weeks during early spring, so that the fields can be cultivated nearly every season. In a field on the B. M. Wilson Farm, across the Trinity Road, there are numerous crevices in a rocky hillside that are outlets for these springs. Also in the same field and in the southern part of the McElroy Farm there are many "craters," deep, funnel-shaped holes that become vigorous springs as long as the water is rising. About a mile and a quarter to the northeast from the sources are several

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large sinkholes that constitute the chief outlets. Between the upper and lower sinkholes is a ditch that normally drains the whole area. Seldom does any water appear in the ditch except after hard local showers; when the springs begin to run, the water rises over the fields and continues to rise in proportion to the heaviness of the rainfall for some weeks previous. In most years the lake is about 200 acres in extent; in 1927, 1935, and 1939 it covered more than 300 acres; and in 1937, after the heaviest rainfall ever recorded here for January and February, it covered nearly 1000 acres on this farm and those adjoining it. By the end of March, 1937, however, the outlying areas were free of water, and the lake assumed its usual high level.

The water as it comes from the crevices and craters is cold, very clear, and practically free from air, as shown by numerous tests made by Dr. L. Y. Lancaster, of the Biology Department of Western Teachers College. Small fish of a semi-blind species (Forbesichthys papilliferus) appear in the craters and become a source of food and easy prey for the herons when the water is going down. Not long after the water begins to appear, algae become plentiful over the whole field, especially in still places. Mr. Fred Meritt Mutchler, teacher of science at Highland Junior High School, of Louisville, in 1934 classified 50 species of algae obtained in this cornfield lake. When the water lasts all summer, there is an abundance of water life: tadpoles, turtles, crayfish, dragon flies, and numerous small insects. There are no permanent marshy places, no cattails, no water plants. In the fall of 1926 the water came up so early that nearly 1000 bushels of corn could not be gathered; this gave an abundant food supply for that season, but ordinarily the water does not appear until February or March. Local rains change the level of the water and make the adjacent fields unsafe for the nesting of waterfowl. There is no high, isolated ground to form islands where nesting could take place. Among the many depressions of this nature this is the only one that is not obscured by trees or thickets or is not too near farmhouses. The large fields of wheat and barley that surround this temporary lake must be a great attraction to the ducks and geese; in some seasons, as in 1937, these waterfowl do considerable damage to small grain crops. Probably the greatest reason for the large number of water birds on this transient lake is the protection that Mrs. McElroy and Messrs J. W. and Cecil Travelsted, the managers, have always maintained. In all of my observation trips I have never seen a hunter. Even when food seems scarce, this protection helps to account for the large number of birds.

My studies of the lake cover rather thoroughly the years 1927, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938 and 1939, when the water lasted long enough for genuine results in study. In 1912, 1922, 1928, and 1932 I also visited the farm for one or two trips each year, but they are hardly representative. Of the years under consideration 1927, 1935, 1937, and 1939 have been the best. The earliest date of observation when the water was up was January 30; the latest, September 10. In 1927 the season ran from March 12 to July 9; in 1933, from March 17 to May 26; in 1934, from March 10 to May 5; in 1935, from March 1 to September 10; in 1936, from April 8 to May 17; in 1937, from January 30 to July 10; in 1938, from February 5 to April 23; and in 1939, from February 11 to June 10. All told, I have made 160 trips to the farm when the water was up and 40 more at other times of the year. The woods at the edge of the depression, the meadows near the barnyard, the orchard, and the cultivated fields are rich in bird life, but birds in these places vary little in numbers and species from those in other farm areas in the same county. On the farm since the beginning of my study I have found 177 species of birds. Of these, 70 are water birds, besides several others that, though land birds, are usually found near lakes and streams. Forty-two species of water birds and raptores were first recorded for my territory of observation on this farm. In fact, aside from this farm I have found only 36 species of water birds near Bowling Green. Our few streams have high, rocky banks and are not attractive to water birds; our ponds are small and fluctuating. The only water or wading bird that is common here is the Killdeer, but the Spotted Sandpiper and the Eastern Green Heron regularly nest in many parts of the county. Occasionally nests are found of the Great Blue Heron, the King Rail, and the Wood Duck. In years when this temporary lake fails to appear I rarely list more than a dozen species of water birds.

This study will be devoted largely to the 70 species of water birds, but mention will be made of a few others. The numbers of species of water birds recorded each year run as follows: 1927, 32; 1933, 31; 1934, 32; 1935, 42; 1936, 20; 1937, 54; 1938, 30; 1939, 54. Observations were made from the edge of the water, from boats, and from places out in the field that could be reached by wading. On many occasions I have had as companions ornithologists of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Indiana. For the last three years we have held an annual field day here, 46 people attending the one in 1939. Mr. A. F. Ganier, of Nashville, Tennessee, and Dr. L. Y. Lancaster, my colleague, have checked this article. I am deeply indebted to both of them for their help in preparing this article and for encouragement in my study. My thanks are due the officers of the Kentucky Academy of Science, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the committees in charge of grants.

COMMON LOON—**Gavia immer immer.** On March 29, 1937, I was in a motor boat that ran right into a flock of 18 loons in the south end of the lake, my first record of the species for my territory, though they have been reported occasionally by others. The next day I saw 4, and 1 each on April 10, 17, and 25. In 1939 I found 4 on March 30, 2 on April 11, and 1 on April 2.

HOLBOELL'S GREBE—**Colymbus grisegena holboelli.** On March 30, 1937, I pursued one for half an hour in a rowboat. All this time it was swimming very rapidly, but, when I came near, it dived and never could be located again. The species was recorded four times in 1938 and three times in 1939, the last one being May 27, a very late straggler.

HORNED GREBE—**Colymbus auritus.** I saw two at close range near the central part of the lake on April 17, 1937; in 1939 I recorded it eight times between March 8 and April 22, usually one or two at a time. On April 19 I saw 12.

PIED-BILLED GREBE—**Podilymbus podiceps podiceps.** I recorded this species every year but rarely saw more than four or five at a time; on April 7, 1934, I saw 12 and on April 22, 1939, 25. In 1927 I found seven nests, all of which had been deserted after being overflowed; the eggs had been incubated two or three days. March 1-July 3.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT—**Phalacrocorax auritus auritus.** Three seen on May 2, 1927, 1 on May 8, 1935, and 2 each on April 1 and 7, 1939.

GREAT BLUE HERON—**Ardea herodias herodias.** Observed in small numbers every year except 1936, when the water disappeared early. In the late summer of 1935 it was always recorded, 12 individuals being the largest number seen on a single day. In January, 1939, it appeared even before the water started rising. January 28-September 10.

AMERICAN EGRET—**Casmerodius albus egretta.** One seen on April 27 and again on April 29, 1933. In the late summer of 1935 it became one of the most obvious birds on the receding lake. On August 3 of that year there were sometimes 20 Egrets, in company with more than 100 herons of other species. One was seen on June 13, 1937, 1 on August 2, 1938, and 2 on May 9, 1939. Fall dates: June 13-August 6.

LITTLE BLUE HERON—**Florida caerulea caerulea.** Recorded in 1927, 1934, 1935, and 1937. Except in 1935 only a few were seen: as many as 60 at a time were recorded in August of that year. April 19-May 25; June 30-August 6.

EASTERN GREEN HERON—**Butorides virescens virescens.** Recorded in good numbers every year; abundant in the summers of 1935 and 1937. On several occasions in 1927, 1935, and 1937 I saw immature birds but was never able to locate a nest. April 6-September 10.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON—**Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli.** Not observed until May 5, 1934, but seen every season since then. On several trips in 1935, 1937, and 1939 I saw immature birds but could find no nests. March 23-August 6.

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON—**Nyctanassa violacea violacea.** Recorded in small numbers in 1937, 1938, and 1939, as late as June 26.

AMERICAN BITTERN—**Botaurus lentiginosus.** Recorded in small numbers every year except 1937; often heard booming. March 22-May 27; July 16-August 6.

EASTERN LEAST BITTERN—**Ixobrychus exilis exilis..** One studied with glasses at thirty feet distance on May 27, 1939.

COMMON CANADA GOOSE—**Branta canadensis canadensis.** In the winter of 1926-27 there were 75 on the lake and farm; of these one remained and joined some others that were wing-tipped. In 1934 one goose came early and remained with the tame ones. In 1937 the numbers varied from 60 on March 15 to 8 as late as April 11. In 1939 the flock never exceeded 25. On two occasions in 1937 I saw what I took to be the Hutchin's Goose (**Branta canadensis hutchinsi**) in company with the common species, but I was too far away for positive identification.

BLUE GOOSE—**Chen caerulescens.** Three were recorded in the barnyard on March 17, 1933, and again the next day. Two others joined them on March 24 and were seen again on March 31. In 1937 the species was seen five times, ranging in number from 2 on March 30 to 15 on April 17. In 1939 I saw 10 as early as February 15 and as late as March 18. At all times the birds were astonishingly tame, allowing me to approach within a few yards of them before taking flight.

COMMON MALLARD—**Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos.** Recorded in good numbers every year except 1936. In 1934, 1937, and 1939 the numbers ran into the hundreds. In 1927 I found 6 young with their mother in the source pool. January 30-July 9.

BLACK DUCK—**Anas rubripes rubripes** and **A. r. tristis.** Recorded every year, running as high as 200 on some occasions. In 1937 I was surprised to find a few in June and July and in 1935 in July and August. February 7-May 4; June 6-August 6.

GADWALL—**Chaulelasmus streperus.** One seen on April 2 and again on April 7, 1939.

BALDPATE—**Mareca americana.** Recorded in small numbers in 1934, 1935, and 1937 and found rather commonly in 1939. February 19-May 17.

AMERICAN PINTAIL—**Dafila acuta tzitzihoa.** Rather oddly, this species was rare in 1927 but plentiful in other years except 1938. In 1933 I estimated there were 1500 Pintails on the lake and in 1939 about 1000. Numbers between 200 and 500 were not unusual in 1934, 1935, and 1937. In 1937 a female, apparently injured, remained until June 22. January 30-June 22.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL—**Nettion carolinense.** Recorded in 1927, 1937, 1938, and 1939, with 50 as the highest daily record. March 1-April 24.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL—**Querquedula discors.** Recorded every year, usually in large numbers at the height of the migration season. In 1927 I found a nest of the species, in 1935 I caught an immature bird, and in 1937 I saw a turtle catch an immature bird on July 10. February 7-August 6.

SHOVELLER—**Spatula clypeata.** Not recorded in 1927 but regularly seen after that; in 1939 they were abundant, but in other years never more than common. In 1935 I found 2 as late as June 19. February 11-June 19.

WOOD DUCK—**Aix sponsa.** Recorded in 1927, 1933, 1937, and 1939, only a few at a time. A few pairs of Wood Ducks nest along our streams. March 24-July 9.

REDHEAD—**Nyroca americana.** Recorded in 1934, 1937, and 1939. On March 15, 1937, I saw 25, the largest single day's record. March 2-April 2.

RING-NECKED DUCK—**Nyroca collaris.** Recorded in 1934, 1935, 1937, 1938, and 1939, as many as 800 in one day in 1939. In the summer of 1937 a crippled male remained until the water disappeared on July 10. March 25-July 10.

CANVAS-BACK—**Nyroca valisineria.** Rare in 1927, 1934, 1937, and 1939. Because of my lack of familiarity with the ducks in 1927, I confused it at a distance with the Lesser Scaup. March 5-May 8.

GREATER SCAUP DUCK—**Nyroca marila.** One identified tentatively on April 1 and positively on April 2, 1939, on the occasion of the visit to the lake of 46 ornithologists.

LESSER SCAUP DUCK—**Nyroca affinis.** An abundant species. In March, 1937, and early April, 1939, it was not unusual to see 500 at a time. In 1935 a few remained after the main flock had left. February 19-June 22.

AMERICAN GOLDEN-EYE—**Glaucionetta clangula americana.** A very rare species, 20 being my best day's record. March 15-April 15.

BUFFLE-HEAD—**Charitonetta albeola.** One seen on April 10, 2 on April 11, and 1 on April 17, 1937; 2 on March 25, 1 on March 26, 1938; recorded several times in 1939, as many as 6 at a time.

OLD-SQUAW—**Clangula hyemalis.** Recorded only on March 26, 1935, and March 6, 15, and 30 and April 3, 1937, 4 being the largest number seen.

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER—**Melanitta deglandi.** Recorded for 1934, 1935, and 1937. Only in 1934 were there many of this species, one or two at a time being the usual numbers. On my first visit to the farm, April 8, 1912, I found this species quite plentiful.

SURF SCOTER—**Melanitta perspicillata.** I identified this species positively only once, March 28, 1934, when I saw 4 in company with a good-sized flock of the White-winged.

RUDDY DUCK—**Erismatura jamaicensis rubida.** Never recorded on the lake proper until 1939 but found on some nearby ponds in small numbers in 1927 and 1938. In 1939 I found it three times on the lake, 3 being the largest number at one time.

HOODED MERGANSER—**Lophodytes cucullatus.** One to 4 seen at a time in February, March, and April. February 11-April 7.

AMERICAN MERGANSER—**Mergus merganser americanus.** Observed in large numbers in 1927 but rarely in other seasons. On June 10, 1939, I found a female that looked perfectly normal but was unable to fly.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER—**Mergus serrator.** Four seen on May 7, 1937, and a flock of more than 100 on April 1, 1939. This flock was viewed by the visiting ornithologists and studied with field glasses and telescopes. The next day only 6 of this flock remained.

KING RAIL—**Rallus elegans elegans.** Recorded in 1927, 1935, and 1937, but never more than 2 at a time. The late Professor J. H. Clagett, a prominent local ornithologist, many years ago found the nest of this species in a similar area near Bowling Green. April 30-August 1.

SORA RAIL—**Porzana carolina.** Though seen often and as many as 10 at a time in 1927, it has been quite scarce since then. I recorded it only in 1933, 1935, and 1937. April 6-September 10.

FLORIDA GALLINULE—**Gallinula chloropus cachinnans.** Recorded on May 11 and 21, 1933, and May 24, August 3, and August 6, 1935. On August 3, 1935, I found 8 chicks and on August 6 caught one.

AMERICAN COOT—**Fulica americana americana.** Always abundant, especially in 1927, 1935, and 1939. Every year when the water has stayed until June I have found nests, but the Crows had robbed most of them; others had been ruined by sudden overflows from hard local rains. Though the adults remained through the summers, I have never found any of the young. February 20-August 6.

PIPING PLOVER—**Charadrius melodus.** Several dozen were seen on May 21, 1933, and 15 on May 26, 1937.

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER—**Charadrius semipalmatus.** Recorded every year, as many as 75 in the spring migrations and 50 in the fall. April 22-May 27; July 27-August 6.

KILLDEER—**Oxyechus vociferus vociferus.** Common at all times and abundant in late summer.

AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER—**Pluvialis dominica dominica.** One observed on April 24 and 26, 1935; 1 on May 15, 1937.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER—**Squatarola squatarola.** I found 5 in full spring plumage on May 21, 1933; 2 in winter plumage on March 30 and one brilliant male on May 18, 1937.

RUDDY TURNSTONE—**Arenaria interpres morinella.** One seen on May 29, 1935, in a flock of Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers.

AMERICAN WOODCOCK—**Philohela minor.** Five seen on May 2, 1933.

WILSON'S SNIPE—**Capella delicata.** Recorded every year, especially at the southern end of the lake. On several occasions I found as many as 100. February 23-May 11.

UPLAND PLOVER—**Bartramia longicauda.** One seen on April 10 and 11, 1937, in an alfalfa field near the barn; 4 seen across the road from the house on April 1, and 7 on April 7, 1939.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER—**Actitis macularia.** Observed in small numbers every year. April 7-August 6.

EASTERN SOLITARY SANDPIPER—**Tringa solitaria solitaria.** Found regularly every year, sometimes as many as 50 at a time. March 24-May 25; June 10-September 10.

WESTERN WILLET—**Catoptrophorus semipalmatus inornatus.** Seven seen on May 1, and 3 on August 3, 1935; 1 on March 30, 1937; 1 on April 2, 1939.

GREATER YELLOW-LEGS—**Totanus melanoleucus.** Recorded every year, sometimes 50 to 75 in a flock. February 15-May 18; June 18-August 6.

LESSER YELLOW-LEGS—**Totanus flavipes.** Common to abundant every year, much commoner than the Greater. March 6-May 27; June 22-September 10.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER—**Pisobia melanotos.** Common to abundant every year. March 15-May 11; July 20-September 10.

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER—**Pisobia bairdi.** Five seen on May 1, 10 on May 11, 2 on May 18, 1935; 1 on June 13, 1937, in a flock of Least Sandpipers; 10 on May 17, and 1 on May 27, 1939.

LEAST SANDPIPER—**Pisobia minutilla.** Common to abundant every year. April 8-May 29; June 13-August 6.

RED-BACKED SANDPIPER—**Pelidna alpina sakhalina.** Two studied at close range on May 24, 1937, and 6 on May 14, 1939.

DOWITCHER—**Limnodromus griseus. (Subsp.)** Two seen on July 20, 1935; 3 on April 7, 1 on April 17, 7 on April 24, and 1 on May 1, 1937.

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER—**Ereunetes pusillus.** Recorded regularly except in 1934, as many as 75 at a time in the midst of the migration season. May 2-May 29; July 24-August 6.

WILSON'S PHALAROPE—**Steganopus tricolor.** Two females observed on May 11, 1933.

HERRING GULL—**Larus argentatus smithsonianus.** A few seen every year except 1936 and 1938, 5 being the highest number. Rather oddly, I saw 5 on July 3, 1935.

RING-BILLED GULL—**Larus delawarensis.** Three seen on March 15, 8 on March 27, 3 on March 29, and 1 on March 30, 1937; 1 on April 1, 1939.

BONAPARTE'S GULL—**Larus philadelphia.** One recorded by Dr. and Mrs. Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr., and Dr. L. Y. Lancaster on April 12, 1939, while they were visiting the lake and taking some moving pictures.

COMMON TERN—**Sterna hirundo hirundo.** Recorded in small numbers four times in June and August, 1935; again on May 7, 1937; and on April 1, 1939.

LEAST TERN—**Sterna antillarum antillarum.** A mated pair observed on April 30, 1939.

CASPIAN TERN—**Hydroprogne caspia imperator.** Four seen on April 30, 1927, and one on March 31, 1934.

BLACK TERN—**Chlidonias nigra surinamensis.** Observed in small numbers in 1927, 1933, 1935, and 1937. On June 22, 1927, Dr. L. Y. Lancaster, who was with me, found an egg of this species on the bank of the ditch. On the same day we saw 7 Black Terns flying low over the water, some of them whining like young. May 2-August 6.

Mention should be made of the following species associated with streams and lakes:

SOUTHERN BALD EAGLE—**Haliaeetus leucocephalus leucocephalus.** On April 10, 1937, Mr. Floyd S. Carpenter, of Louisville, and I saw one in a tree near the edge of the lake. Crows soon saw it and gave chase, which enabled us to get many fine views of it with our glasses and with our naked eyes. I saw 1 on March 15, 1938, flying across the small lake then forming.

MARSH HAWK—**Circus hudsonius.** This species, always found in winter, appears on many of my lists for the McElroy Farm for the winter and as late as April 24.

OSPREY—**Pandion haliaeetus carolinensis.** Observed several times in 1927; on April 24 and 27 I saw two billing. In 1935 I recorded one on each of the following dates: April 16 and 24; in 1937, April 24 and 25; in 1939, April 15.

DUCK HAWK—**Falco peregrinus anatum.** One seen several times on April 25, 1937, by our party, which included Messrs. George R. Mayfield and A. F. Ganier, of Nashville, Tennessee, and Mr. Burt L. Monroe of Louisville. On June 11, 1937, I tentatively identified a hawk I saw in the thicket as this species. In 1938 I positively identified one on March 19.

EASTERN BELTED KINGFISHER—**Megaceryle alcyon alcyon.** This species was rarely seen on or near the lake until 1937, when it was found on nearly every trip in late spring and early summer.

AMERICAN PIPIT—**Anthus spinoletta rubescens.** In 1927 and 1939 I found small flocks on the mud flats where the water had receded.

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER—**Protonotharia citrea.** I have only one record for this species on the lake, May 4, 1935, though the conditions for its nesting were favorable in 1927 and 1937. It nests commonly along our streams.

LOUISIANA WATER-THRUSH—**Seiurus motacilla.** Often observed where the stream from the Wilson Farm comes under the Trinity Road.

EASTERN RED-WING—**Agelaius phoeniceus phoeniceus.** Always common to abundant in the lake area.

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WESTERN KENTUCKY STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE,

BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY.

HOMES FOR OUR BIRDS

Dimensions of Nesting Boxes for Birds and Heights at Which They Should Be Placed Above the Ground

	Floor Inside	Height Inside	Entrance Above Floor	Diameter of Entrance	Height Above Ground
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Feet
Bluebird (no perch)	4x6	10	8	1¾	5-7
Chickadee	4x4	10	8	1	5-7
House Wren and Bewick Wren	4x8	5-7	1-3	1 to 1¼	6-10
Robin	6x8	8	open 3 sides		8-15
Purple Martin	4x10	6	1	2½	12-18

A slanting roof will shed the rain. Roofing paper will protect the cover.

Late winter or early spring is the best time for building bird houses. The houses should be all ready on the birds' "home-coming day."

Robins will sometimes accept a nesting platform; it should be open on three sides.

Wrens will nest in any sort of cavity, but like small homes with perches. Use paint of dark color. Fasten the floor or side with hinges, so it can be opened for cleaning, and close with hook and eye. Wrens and martins prefer a long "tunnel-like" apartment for their nests.

Purple martins prefer to live in colonies. They like a house with four or more "apartments" on top of a pole, located away from trees, etc. For ventilation, drill a hole in the top of the house. Paint martins' house white.

Read "Houses for Rent," **Elementary Science by Grades**, Book VI, p. 207; also pamphlet, "Homes for Birds," Farmers' Bulletin, No. 1456.

EMILIE YUNKER,
Supervisor Nature Study and Gardening

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SWALLOWS IN THE BLUEGRASS

By VICTOR K. DODGE

My mind naturally drifts back to the old homestead in the Bluegrass, where I spent my youth. The buildings stand today as they did in 1872; a small creek flows across the pasture near the group of barns and other farm structures. There is mud along the creek suitable for building swallow nests. The barn at the extreme right of the group was built of rough-sawn lumber in 1852, and it and a pair of shedded cribs and a cabin, all by reason of their rough material and projecting eaves, were long ago adopted by Cliff Swallows for nesting sites. During the same period a single pair and occasionally two pairs of Barn Swallows built in the loft of the barn.

The first English Sparrows came in 1886, and no more Cliff Swallows appeared until 1924, when one pair nested. Then in 1925 two pairs nested, and in 1926 there were ten pairs, under the eaves of the old barn. None have appeared since then.

When the Cliff Swallows failed to return in 1887, the Barn Swallows began to increase, so that by 1896 there were as many as ten nests in the loft of the old barn. During the years since 1896 the Barn Swallows have increased until now, and for over thirty years back, their nests have numbered between twenty and thirty-six, varying in numbers with the years.

A new building on the farm was made of dressed or planed lumber, and, as it has a hallway through the center with the joists only eight feet from the dirt floor, we planned to make it inviting to Barn Swallows. Our idea was that if the cross bridgings for the joists were made four inches wide, they would support the mud nests, in spite of the smooth joists. The swallows accepted our plans and are nesting there regularly.

Another scheme worked. We nailed some 1x2 strips lengthwise along the lower sides of the joists, leaving about four inches clearance between the top of the strips and the floor which the joists support. These strips furnish a secure footing for the nests.

Friends have asked me to tell them how to induce Barn Swallows to nest about their premises, but I cannot tell them. I only know that these lovable birds are like gold, which is "where you find it." Why do these birds persist in returning to the old barn? Is it because there is mud in the little creek for nest-building? Probably so, but there is mud almost everywhere. Let me present another curious fact: they will not accept feathers from our Rhode Island Reds for nest linings but will go nearly a mile to a neighbor's premises, where feathers can be had from Barred Plymouth Rocks. These birds seem to have very definite preferences for colors for nest building.

If you happen to know of an old stable loft wherein Barn Swallows are nesting, creep up and snuggle down in the hay and lie perfectly still for a while. Directly a pair of swallows will come and probably detect the presence of a stranger, and they will circle about with slightly complaining cries which sound like "Seekit—seekit—seekit." After a while they will probably alight on a crosstie or collar-beam, and you will hear a gentle twitter, a sort of reassurance, from the male. Then if you are perfectly still and quiet, you may (and you may not) hear the sweetest little cackle you ever thought possible from a bird. You must be patient, and you must come again, if you are not favored at first. I have not seen this cackle mentioned in print, but it may be described as being uttered like the nicker or greeting which is characteristic of the Purple Martin, only it is very, very faint; in fact, it is barely audible.

As you drive about the country in June, July, and August, watch out for Barn Swallows about stable lots, especially if the lots contain ponds or a very old stable. If you see any swallows flying about, walk in. Tell the owner you will not leave any gates unlatched and that you are a bird lover and want to look at his swallows. The chances are a hundred to one that you will be welcome.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Publication of the Kentucky Ornithological Society
Issued for the Seasons

Subscription Price..$1.00 Per Year

(Includes membership to state organization and local chapters)

KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

Evelyn J. Schneider, Lousville, Ky., presiding

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2:00 P. M.

Leather Room—Seelbach Hotel.

2:05 P. M. "Bird Club"—Fifth grade pupils of Ellen C. Semple School, Louisville, Ky., Miss Amy Deane, teacher.

2:20 "Some Breeding Birds of Big Black Mountain"—Roger W. Barbour, Morehead, Ky.

2:40 "History of the Starling in Kentucky" (illustrated with lantern slides)—Dr. Harvey B. Lovell, Louisville, Ky.

3:00 "Through the Year on the Nature Trail" (illustrated with lantern slides)—Dr. Lawrence E. Hicks, Columbus, Ohio.

EXHIBIT—Bird houses and bird sticks from the Louisville Public Schools—Miss Emilie Yunker in charge.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

6:45 A. M.—Field Trip—Miss Mabel Slack, leader. (Meet at east end of Oak Street Car Line, Cherokee Park).

Leather Room—Seelbach Hotel.

12:15 P. M. Luncheon—Followed by a short business meeting. (Make luncheon reservations with Miss Audrey Wright, 1312 Hepburn Avenue, Louisville, Ky., Phone WA3796).

2:00 "Mammoth Cave Birds"—Dr. Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green, Ky.

2:20 "The Color Camera Explores Bird Behavior" (a 75-minute color-motion-picture bird lecture)—Cleveland P. Grant, Jaffrey, New Hampshire.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

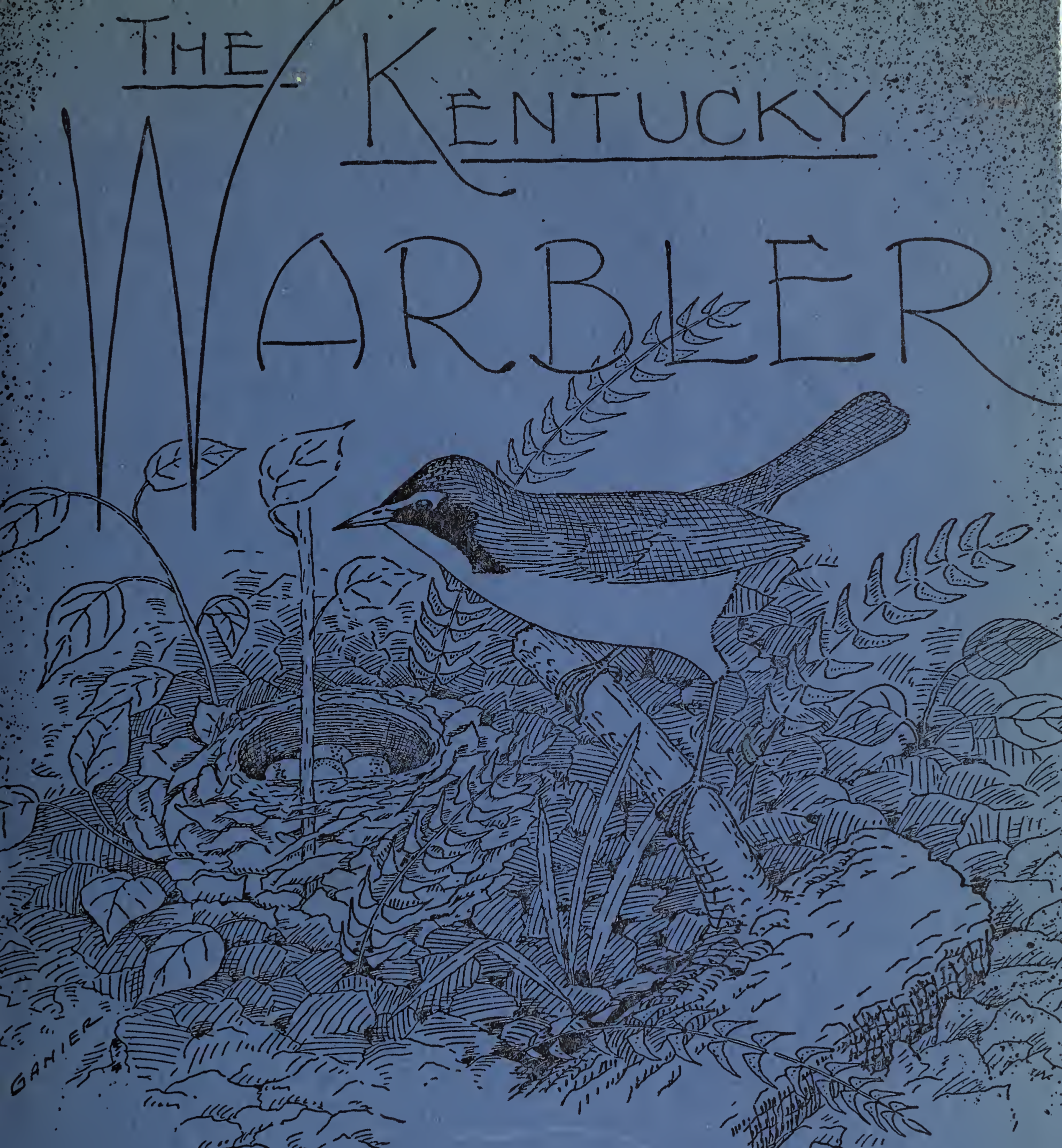
Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therfore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Virgil D. King, Secretary-Treasurer, Soil Conservation Service, Falmouth, Kentucky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in the Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Teachers College, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER



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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Volume XVI **SUMMER, 1940** **Number 3**

ORNITHOMANIA VERNALIS

Since our last issue we have all been through our annual observation of the hosts of spring migrants. To those who have never felt the thrill of bird study we are at the spring season doubly the "bird fiends" we are always. When you stop to think of it, our friends have something on their side. From the earliest days of spring, when winter seems as deeply entrenched as ever, the disease—**ornithomania vernalis,** "spring bird madness"—grows stronger in all of us until it reaches its crisis in the last days of April or early in May. Sleep seems both unnecessary and unattainable for many of us: if we nod, some bird may pass over without our adding it to our lists. And then, when the season ends in a full burst of glory, around the middle of May, we victims of this strange disease find ourselves fatigued but exulting in our recent experiences—our critics might call them "hallucinations." It takes days, even weeks, to recover from the malady; in fact, some of the germs live through the summer and are ready to spring to life again when the first notes of the Bronzed Grackle sound late in January or February.

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OUR SPRING MEETING

The eighteenth annual spring meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society was held in the Leather Room of the Seelbach Hotel, Louisville, on the afternoons of April 18 and 19, 1940. The Thursday afternoon meeting was called to order by the president, Miss Evelyn J. Schneider. The first part of the program was given by 5 A pupils of the Ellen C. Semple School, Louisville, under the direction of Miss Amy Deane. This interesting dramatization demonstrated how grade pupils can be led to study, enjoy, and appreciate birds.

For more than an hour Dr. Lawrence E. Hicks, of Ohio State University, held the undivided attention of all those who were packed into the room. His lantern slides, instructive comments, and the amazing number of Nature's trails a man so young as Dr. Hicks has been able to blaze delighted the audience.

Dr. Harvey B. Lovell, of the University of Louisville, made a timely and interesting discussion of the Starling. He told of its nesting, feeding, and roosting habits as well as its migration. He estimated the number of Starlings that roost in downtown Louisville during the fall and winter as between 100,000 and 200,000. The city has tried to discourage these birds from roosting in concentrated groups by using live steam, bright lights, strong streams of water,

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and search lights. Stewart's Department Store has tried using a dozen big owls. Dr. Lovell suggested that the situation might be alleviated by putting the Starling on the game bird list. He also indicated that the building of roosts might help.

Miss Emilie Yunker, School Garden Director of the Louisville Schools, had on hand an interesting exhibit of bird sticks and bird houses made by grade pupils of the Louisville schools.

Mr. Roger W. Barbour, of Morehead Teachers College, made his discussion of "Some Breeding Birds of Big Black Mountain" so interesting that many of our K. O. S. members have already planned to spend several days on this mountain early in June. His talk showed once more the wealth of opportunities for bird study within Kentucky's diversified terrain.

In spite of the rain Friday morning the field trip, led by Miss Mabel Slack, was adjudged worthwhile by the seven K. O. S. members who participated. Thirty-six different species were observed: Yellow-headed Blackbird (see later note by Leonard Brecher.—Ed.), Mockingbird, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Goldfinch, Cardinal, Towhee, Myrtle Warbler, Carolina Wren, Tufted Titmouse, Starling, Robin, Red-shouldered Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Crow, Red-winged Blackbird, Cowbird, Bronzed Grackle, Coot, Kingfisher, Meadowlark, Flicker, Mourning Dove, Lesser Scaup, Baldpate, Shoveller, Blue-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck, Killdeer, Loon, Herring Gull, Mergansers (5 individuals, species undetermined), Barn Swallow, Tree Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow.

A large number of the K. O. S. members enjoyed the luncheon, which had been carefully planned by Miss Audrey Wright. Following the luncheon every one present was introduced. In the business session Miss Mabel Slack read the report of the Membership Committee: that each member of the K. O. S. had been asked to get new members in his immediate community; that personal letters had been written to all delinquent members whose memberships expired before January 1, 1940, and that others would be written later; that a short article had been written for publication in THE KENTUCKY SCHOOL JOURNAL and that other press releases telling about the work of the society would be written later; that a letter had been written Mr. Everett Frei, of Glasgow, congratulating him on his splendid work in organizing a bird club in his home town; and that plans had been formulated to ask college science instructors to organize groups of students under the joint-membership plan of the K. O. S.

Mr. Leonard Brecher gave a report of the Committee on Constitutional Revision. The new constitution is to be submitted for action at our next fall meeting. It was decided on a motion by Dr. T. Atchison Frazer to postpone the election of a vice-president until the fall meeting and to request Mr. Raymond Fleetwood to remain in that office until that time. The University of Louisville library was selected as a depository for all K. O. S. documents. The date and place of the fall meeting was left to the executive committee. The group voted unanimously to go on record as opposing the passage of Senate Bill No. 3611, introduced by Senator Lucas, to permit baiting of waterfowl. The secretary was instructed to write the Hon. Ellison D. Smith, Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, to protest against this bill.

The treasurer reported the purchase of $300 of investment shares with the Jefferson Federal Savings and Loan Association. This investment was made principally with the money left to the K. O. S. by the late Dr. L. Otley Pindar and will draw 3½% interest annually. It was pointed out that the present balance of $55 in the treasury was due largely to the fact that Dr. Gordon Wilson paid for the winter and spring, 1940, issues of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER.

The president reported that photostatic copies of old issues of THE WARBLER are being made, and some are already available for distribution. The meeting then adjourned to the Rathskeller of the Seelbach for the afternoon program.

More than 200 people from all parts of the state gathered to hear Dr. Gordon Wilson tell of his interesting observations in the Mammoth Cave National Park and to hear Mr. Cleveland Grant, of the Baker-Hunt Foundation, show his marvelous reels of natural-color films, depicting the activities of Snow Geese, Razor-billed Auks, Arctic Terns, Ruffed Grouse, Lesser Prairie Chicken, Baltimore Oriole, and other birds.

—VIRGIL D. KING, Secretary-Treasurer.

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YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD

Although the program committee of the K. O. S. treated the spring meeting to choice fare on April 18 and 19, the weather man did all he could to dampen, or drown out, the fine enthusiasm of the meeting. All during the convention and for several days previous there was rain, so that on the morning of April 19 only the more hardy souls of the local group came out to brave the weather.

The mud flats on which we had hoped to see shore birds were covered by rising waters. Small ponds on which we had expected to see several kinds of ducks had risen and spread out so much that it was difficult to get around them. Therefore, the observers had to content themselves with whatever could be seen from the cars. Even at that the driving rains sprayed in at the open windows, but it was exciting at least.

A large flock of newly-arrived swallows were skimming over one of the improvised lakes that had been a cornfield at the previous week-end. This group included the Tree, Rough-winged, Cliff, and Barn Swallow. Along the river were large numbers of Lesser Scaup, which had arrived over a month late as compared with previous records.

As we drove up the River Road toward Harrod's Creek, we stopped to scan a strip of water running through a cornfield, in the hope of finding the Greater and Lesser Yellow-legs. However, there was a flock of birds on the other side of this water, about a hundred yards away from the cars. The writer started to inspect the group in the hope of finding a Cowbird mixed in with the group, which seemed to be Starlings. Hardly had the glasses been focussed when a bird with an intensely bright yellow head was seen walking in the center of the group. This bird then flew a few feet and settled down again, displaying prominent white wing patches against a black body. This was at once recognized as the Yellow-headed Blackbird (**Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus**), and was also identified by Miss Evelyn Schneider and Mrs. Brecher. The writer then went to notify the occupants of the second car; shortly afterwards the entire flock of birds took wing. Before they did, Miss Mabel Slack, in the other auto, glimpsed the Yellow-head among the other birds, which proved to be Red-winged Blackbirds. Thrilled by the sight of this unusual visitor, the occupants of the second car cruised along in this area for another hour and were finally rewarded by having the flock settle down within fifty yards of the machine, in full sight. Thus Virgil King, Miss Esther Mason, and Mrs. Alice Moore were also able to have perfect views of the brilliant stranger.

It was to be regretted, of course, that a full list of the migrating birds in the area could not be made on account of the rain, but the discovery of this Yellow-headed Blackbird, straying so far to the east of its range, compensated for the lack of other species. So far as is known, this is the first record of this species for the Louisville area.

—LEONARD C. BRECHER, Louisville.

* * * * * *

SPRING OUTING AT MAMMOTH CAVE

Since the temporary lake at the McElroy Farm failed to come up this spring until late in April, the people who ordinarily have come to the lake decided to hold our annual spring outing at the Mammoth Cave National Park on April 6 and 7. Twenty-three people made up the party. Field trips were made on Saturday morning in the area near the cave, including the Old Entrance, the small permanent pond near the Rangers' Cottages, and the pine forest toward Great Onyx. That afternoon we drove out to the little pond on the old Mammoth Cave Railway line toward Park City. Early the next morning several parties made trips to see the birds as they awoke, and then after breakfast we crossed the river, explored the Hickory Cabin country and finished the day in the First Creek Lake region. In spite of the backward spring and the few places to see water birds, we recorded 57 species: Bluebord, Bobwhite, Red-winged Blackbird, Cardinal, Carolina Chickadee, Cowbird, Crow, Brown Creeper, Mourning Dove, Mallard, Flicker, Purple Finch, Goldfinch, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Bronzed Grackle, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Osprey, Starling, Blue Jay, Junco, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Meadowlark, Prairie Horned Lark, Purple Martin, White-breasted Nuthatch, Barred Owl, Phoebe, Robin, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, English Sparrow, Rough-winged Swallow, Chimney Swift, Tufted Titmouse, Brown Thrasher, Hermit Thrush, Louisiana Water-thrush, Towhee, Black and White Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Parula Warbler, Palm Warbler, Sycamore Warbler, Downy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Carolina Wren, Winter Wren, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture.

The following people were in the party: Dr. Cynthia Counce, Dr. Harvey Lovell, Mrs. T. D. Goodman, and Misses Mabel Slack, Dorothy Peil, Helen Peil, Esther Mason, Marie Peiper, Audrey Wright, and Amy Deane, Louisville; Dr. and Mrs. George R. Mayfield, Messrs George Mayfield, Jr., Conrad Jamison, Sam Davis, John Pritchett, and A. F. Ganier, Nashville, Tennesee; Mr. and Mrs. Everett Frei, Miss Betty Braden, and Messrs Russell Starr and Kenneth Pace, Glasgow; and Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green.

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HOUSE WRENS

Mr. L. J. Dickerson, of Falmouth, is a retired railroad engineer and bird enthusiast. His attractive lawn is filled with thick shrubs and big trees, which harbor several bird houses and feeding stations. Early in July, 1939, he invited me out to see a small bird that was nesting in a little house on top of a fence post. He was unable to identify the bird but thought it was a warbler on account of its song. I was pleased to find the little house occupied by a pair of House Wrens with young almost large enough to fly. Late in June of 1939 I found a pair of House Wrens nesting near the CCC Camp of Walton, Kentucky. The nest was in a limb of a dead snag. The cavity appeared to have been an old woodpecker nest.

—VIRGIL D. KING, Falmouth.

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SOME NOTES ON THE SONG SPARROW

On June 3, 1938, a Song Sparrow was heard singing near Waterview, Kentucky, which is between Burkesville and Glasgow. I stopped the car near a small stream to verify the songster by a sight record but failed to flush this singer on the first try and did not have time to go afield for a closer search. Since I had found the Song Sparrow at Sunbright, Tennessee (elevation 1345 feet) that morning, I was particularly interested in other possible records and therefore watched and listened carefully at streams and marshy spots along the route. This route incluuded Sunbright, Rugby, and Jamestown, Tennessee, and Albany, Bowling Green, and Glasgow, Kentucky.

I have found Song Sparrows plentiful in suitable habitat along U. S. Highway 25-W. On July 2 and 4, 1938, these birds were found from Jellico, Tennessee, on north to Berea, Kentucky, which was my destination at that time. Other trips over the same route revealed many Song Sparrows as summer residents.

Another summer record was made on June 6, 1939, near Henderson, Kentucky. This bird was by the roadside and was singing spasmodically.

Some of these notations were obtained along with other data for determining the southerly and westerly summer range of the Song Sparrow around Knoxville, Tennessee. The bird is a common permanent resident at Knoxville.

—W. M. WALKER, JR., Knoxville, Tennessee.

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SECOND FIELD DAY AT OTTER CREEK

By BECKHAM BIRD CLUB

The Louisville Chapter of the Kentucky Ornithological Society held its second field day at Otter Creek Park, in Meade County, on May 19, 1940. Sixteen members enjoyed a busy and exciting day while making a bird census: Amy Deane, Vera Henderson, Dorothy Peil, Mr. and Mrs. John M. Prentice, Mabel Slack, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Brecher, Ruth Brecher, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Doelckner, Evelyn Schneider, Floyd Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Matmiller, and Dr. Harvey Lovell. Five of these spent the previous night in the attractive cabins.

Otter Creek was made a park in 1934. Gradually the old farm buildings are being removed and the fields set out in trees.. Consequently, the bird habitats are undergoing considerable changes. Birds of the open fields are already losing their favorite haunts.

Birds that thrive in the vicinity of human habitations find themselves more and more restricted. For example, Meadowlarks were far from common. No Bronzed Grackles or Brown Thrashers were reported, although the latter have been seen in the park during the spring. Bluebirds and Robins are among the rarer birds. English Sparrows and Starlings were scarce, being confined to the vicinity of the main camps or of several farms that still remain within the edges of the park. Field Sparrows, however, are still abundant, for they find the low bushes and young trees ideal.

During the day the parties visited the open fields in front of the cabins; the Blue Hole in Otter Creek, where a flock of Cedar Waxwings were feeding on insect larvae; the dense woods behind the cabins, where thrushes and tanagers abounded; a small pond in the vicinity of the old church, where a Marsh Wren was seen; Morgan's Cave and the wooded trail leading to the river; the railroad tracks both east and west from Stone Haven; and several other habitats. The Whip-poor-will and the Barred Owl were heard during the previous night.

A high wind whipped the leaves into furious motion during the early morning, making the birds hard to see and harder to hear.

Two showers added to our difficulty. The Indigo Bunting was the most characteristic bird of the day. Wherever we went, his brilliant colors flashed, and his powerful song filled us with wonder and admiration. A wide variety of flowers carpeted the forest floor and rocky cliffs, including the Fire Pink, Wild Comfrey, Puccoon, Phacelia, Solomon's Seal, Penstemon, Golden Ragwort, Orange Dandelion, Yellow Star-grass, Bird's-foot Violet, and whole hillsides of Wild Columbines.

In addition to the 75 species of birds listed below, several others were seen in the park during the previous week, including the White-throated Sparrow (May 12), Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Baltimore Oriole, Brown Thrasher, and Wilson's Warbler.

May 19, 1940—6:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M., Green Heron, 2; Turkey Vulture, 5; Black Vulture, 2; Bob-white, 4; Mourning Dove, 6; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 1; Black-billed Cuckoo, 2; Barred Owl, 1; Whip-poor-will, 1; Chimney Swift, 35; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 1; Flicker, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 6; Kingbird, 1; Crested Flycatcher, 7; Phoebe, 2; Flycatcher (Acadian?), 6; Wood Pewee, 10; Rough-winged Swallow, 1; Purple Martin, 1; Blue Jay, 10; Crow, 10; Carolina Chickadee, 6; Tufted Titmouse, 8; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; House Wren, 1; Bewick's Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 2; Prairie Marsh Wren, 1; Mockingbird, 1; Catbird, 6; Robin, 2; Wood Thrush, 10; Olive-backed Thrush, 12; Gray-cheeked Thrush, 4; Veery, 2; Bluebird, 1; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 20; Cedar Waxwing, 20; Starling, 4; White-eyed Vireo, 10; Yellow-throated Vireo, 1; Red-eyed Vireo, 40; Black and White Warbler, 2; Yellow Warbler, 1; Magnolia Warbler, 1; Black-throated Green Warbler, 4; Cerulean Warbler, 1; Sycamore Warbler, 10; Bay-breasted Warbler, 4; Blackpoll Warbler, 4; Prairie Warbler, 5; Oven-bird, 1; Louisiana Water-thrush, 1; Kentucky Warbler, 8; Maryland Yellow-throat, 6; Yellow-breasted Chat, 12; Canada Warbler, 1; American Redstrat, 2; English Sparrow, 5; Meadowlark, 3; Red-winged Blackbird, 21 (12 nests), Cowbird, 1; Scarlet Tanager, 2; Summer Tanager, 6; Cardinal, 16; Indigo Bunting, 30; Goldfinch, 38; Red-eyed Towhee, 10; Savannah Sparrow, 1; Chipping Sparrow, 6; Field Sparrow, 12; Song Sparrow, 2. Total, 75 species, 502 individuals.

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LATE RECORD OF THE RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH

On Sunday, May 5, 1940, I obtained an unusual record of the Red-breasted Nuthatch (**Sitta canadensis**). I was observing birds in Shawnee Park, an open-garden type, bordering the Ohio River. The elm trees were just opening their leaves and the lacy seed filaments were plentiful. In one of the elms, which stood apart, I noticed seven or eight Nashville Warblers (**Vermivora ruficapilla ruficapilla**) feeding. Greatly to my surprise, I found among them the Red-breasted Nuthatch, and it, too, was busy inspecting the clusters of elm seeds, much the same as the warblers. After it had finished with one branch, it would then travel back along the branch in true nuthatch fashion to the trunk, select another branch, and work its way out on that. This process was repeated many times, and as the tree was in the open, the bird was kept in sight at all times. The broad eye stripe of the bird was very conspicuous, and in the bright sunlight the coloring could be plainly seen, even without the aid of glasses. After watching it for about fifteen minutes, I left it still feeding in the same tree. Perhaps the severe winter drove this bird much farther south than usual, which caused it to be so late on its return. Also I had never before witnessed the warbler-like actions it displayed. Was it inspired by the Nashville Warblers, with which it was feeding?

On May 25 I watched two White-breasted Nuthatches (**Sitta carolinensis carolinensis**) feed their three young, which were perched on slender branches about fifteen feet above the ground. Although I watched each youngster fed several times, not once was food secured from any place other than the trunk or heavy limb of surrounding trees.

—LEONARD C. BRECHER, Louisville.

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LARK SPARROWS

When a man is in his home state, and a strange bird appears within a few feet of him, he feels as if his eyes were deceiving him. I was in a field that I had been in several times before. I had no thought of seeing a strange bird, one I had never seen before, when suddenly a strange bird with much white in its fan-shaped tail flushed from the grass and perched on a branch just a few feet from me. With field glasses trained on it, I found it to be very handsome: a grayish-brown sparrow-sized bird with a white throat, a white eye line, and rather vivid chestnut ear patches. The breast was white, with one dark central spot. The tail was similar to that of the Towhee, while the breast-spot made me think of the Song Sparrow, but the other markings did not fit either of these birds. Finally I realized that I was looking at a Lark Sparrow. Its mate was near by. Several times during the summer of 1939 I saw Lark Sparrows in Grant and Pendleton Counties. I have found them many times in 1940. I never saw a bird by itself. There were always two together until late August and early September, when I saw as many as five at one time.

On June 12, 1939, I saw a pair of these birds on the farm of Lafe Newton, in Meade County, near Fort Knox.

VIRGIL D. KING, Falmouth.

SOME NEW EXPERIENCES

The spring and summer of 1940 have brought me several new bird experiences. On May 4, the day of my best one-day find for the year, I almost stepped on a Mourning Dove's nest, located on the ground at the edge of the cliff only a few yards from the rustic cabin owned by Dr. L. Y. Lancaster.

While I was camping on Ugly Creek (so called for its destructive nature after heavy showers) on June 23, 1940, I heard a note decidedly unfamiliar for summer. Within a few yards of me a Blue-winged Warbler was feeding a young bird just out of the nest. The adult bird would dart across the creek, sing a few times its buzzing song, and then return with an insect for the young. We studied it for nearly an hour with 8-power glasses, sometimes at only thirty feet distance. I have recorded it since then near the Echo River Ferry. On the same trip in this wild area of the Mammoth Cave National Park we recorded the Worm-eating and the Parula Warblers, species that I have long suspected as summer residents without being exactly able to prove my belief. The Scarlet Tanager is also quite common in this area, even more so than the Summer is in my more usual territory.

—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green.

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NOTES FROM CARTER COUNTY

The Summer, 1938, Issue of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER carcied my list of sixty-six species of breeding birds of Carter County. Since that time I have definitely established the status of the following additional species: 1. The Kentucky Warbler is quite common, 2. the Crested Flycatcher is not so common, 3. the Worm-eating Warbler is not so common, and 4. the Warbling Vireo is very common. Three other species are under observation and will be reported on later.

In the face of such strong prejudice against all hawks I often wonder how large species like the Red-tailed and Red-shouldered ever manage to exist in the hills. The past two months (April and May, 1940), I have had an interesting experience watching a nest of Red-shouldered Hawks. My first trip to the nest was on April 27. It was in a tall poplar tree near the top of a high ridge. As the leaves were not out by that time, the nest was very conspicuous: I could easily see into it when I stood on top of the ridge. There was one down-covered young hawk. The parent birds seemed extremely wild: upon seeing me, they would quickly rise, flapping their wings rapidly. Occasionally I would hear their familiar "kee-you." I knew by the tracks that others had been to the tree before me. I wrote a note asking that no one harm the hawks and tacked it on a tree. After this I walked down to the foot of the tree and found the reason why the old birds were so shy. I discovered a barricade made by covering the top of a large hollow stump with chunks and leaves. Near the stump I found two empty shotgun shells.

On May 12 I returned to the nest. One old hawk was sitting on the side of the nest. I was glad to find the young hawk safe and much larger. Both parent hawks circled high overhead and frequently gave their call. On May 26 I again returned. At that time the leaves were large enough to shield me. The young hawk had feathered out and resembled its parents. When I first arrived, both parents were gone. Before I left, one arrived with a ground squirrel. On June 7 I made my final trip to the nest. The nest itself was empty, but I discovered the young hawk near by. After many weeks of anxiety I was happy to know that it finally could leave the nest unharmed.

—ERCEL KOZEE, Johns Run.

* * * * * *

PEEPS INTO THE PRIVATE LIFE OF A PAIR OF PEWEES

For several weeks we had been seeing an Eastern Wood Pewee fly from his perch on the telephone wires along an old lane to the electric wires just outside our den windows. "Pee-a-wee" he would sigh, swiftly launch into the air, snapping and popping his bill as he decreased the insect population, then settling back on his perch. His "blitzkrieg" tactics were strangely at variance with his plaintive notes. He had so obviously staked out his territory that we suspected the existence of a shy mate, patiently brooding her eggs, but though we often watched his aerial fishing trips, we were never able to detect his visits to the small, cup-shaped nest. However, on Sunday, July 7, we were to share his secret. On that afternoon we had been investigating, with the aid of a tall stepladder, a Catbird's nest, located in a second-growth maple across the lane, when a pair of Pewees began to cry in alarm, flying distractedly from a small maple in the side yard to the telephone wires along the lane. Rightly concluding that the nest must be in the maple, we gazed at a little lump saddled in the crotch of a small limb, about twenty feet from the ground. Here the downy backs of the bantlings protruded from the lichen-covered cup, but not until we started away, did the parent birds return to the nest.

Hiding our deck chairs behind the low-hanging boughs of a nearby maple, we focussed our field glasses and set ourselves to watch. A period of patient observation showed that Mama and Papa Pewee took turn about in filling the gaping mouths of their offspring, and that these feeding trips were made at intervals ranging from three seconds to nearly three minutes. When the old birds would stay away for more than a minute, the nestlings would set up a faint cry, keeping it up until the hard-worked parent brought a quota of insects to "fill the bill." When we went into the house at 7:10 P. M., because of the darkness, the feeding was going at full speed. For thirty minutes afterward we heard the adults giving the feeding calls.

The next morning the call of the parent birds was heard at six o'clock, but, as a light rain was falling, we did not begin our obesrvation until nine o'clock. The first view of the nest showed one of the adult birds hovering the young to protect them from the rain. within two or three minutes the other adult came with food and drove off the hovering parent, presuming, perhaps, that the food problem was more important than that of shelter. After that incident alternate feedings continued on an average of every thirty seconds as long as we watched.

It was raining harder Tuesday morning. When we went out at nine o'clock for the morning observation, we found the same situation as on the day before: one bird was sheltering the young; it seemed to sit high on the nest, possibly on the rim, leaving an approach for the other adult. We decided that "Sheltering Wing" must be the mother bird, while 'Bring-home-the bacon" surely was the father. At noon both adults were sitting on a wire near the nest, repeatedly giving their calls. Since then the weather has been clear and bright, and the pair of Pewees have been working overtime trying to satisfy the voracious appetites of their fast-growing offspring.

—MARY LOU FREI, Glasgow.

* * * * * *

OLDER ISSUES AVAILABLE

There are now available a limited number of photographic copies of all issues of Volume I-X of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER. Pages are of the same size as the original issues and are printed on one side only. Since most of the early issues have not been obtainable for some time, photographic copies were made so that those who desire to own complete sets may now do so. These will be sold for fifty cents an issue. Write Miss Evelyn J. Schneider, University of Louisville Library, Louisville, Kentucky.

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JUNE 21, 1940

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THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

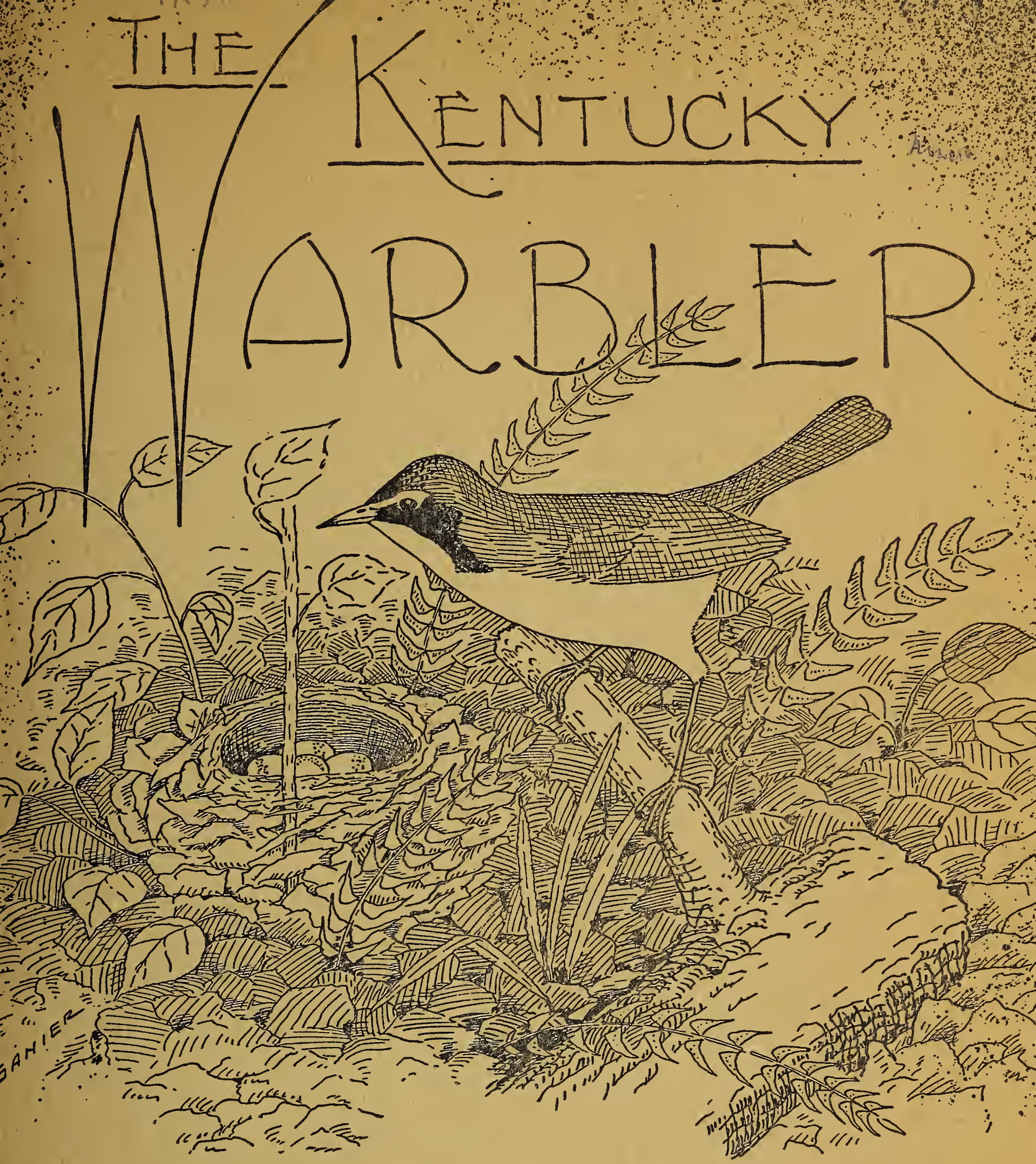
Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therfore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Virgil D. King, Secretary-Treasurer, Soil Conservation Service, Falmouth, Kentucky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in the Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Teachers College, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER



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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Vol. XVI FALL, 1940 Number 4

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL FALL MEETING

More than seventy bird enthusiasts were at Hemlock Lodge in Natural Bridge State Park on October 5 and 6, 1940. After luncheon on October 5 four parties set out for Natural Bridge on trails bordered with mountain laurel, rhododendron, trailing arbutus, wintergreen, partridge berry, clintonia, huckleberry, and many other interesting plants. A mild temperature rendered coats unnecessary, and early morning showers had taken out most of the crackle from the fallen leaves; thus with little noise we wandered along as we chatted with old friends and peered through the beautifully tinted autumn foliage for our bird friends.

Soon after returning to Hemlock Lodge from the bird walks, we held our business session. Leonard Brecher presented the report of the committee on constitutional revision. After the reading of each section, a vote was taken. Every section was adopted as read except Section 3 of the By-Laws, which was deleted. The secretary read a letter from R. C. Soaper, who asked to be reimbursed for $10.00 he had advanced to woodcutters in the fall of 1937 in order to save some big pecan trees in the John James Audubon Heronry of Henderson County. Mr. Soaper expressed a willingness to accept either the $10.00 or a life membership in the K. O. S. Colonel Lucien Beckner asked whether the constitution contained a provision for life membership and was advised by the president that it did not. Major Victor K. Dodge moved that Mr. Soaper be reimbursed immediately. This motion was carried unanimously.

The nominating committee, composed of Mabel Slack, chairman, Beulah Marsh, and Dr. Gordon Wilson, recommended the following officers:

President—Evelyn J. Schneider, Louisville.

Vice-President—Virgil D. King, Carlisle.

Secretary-Treasurer—Thelma Gentry, Madisonville.

Councillors—Mrs. John H. Mayer, Cynthiana; Leonard Brecher, Louisville; Mrs. F. Everett Frei, Glasgow.

No nominations were made from the floor, and the report of the nominating committee was accepted.

The president read a telegram from Dr. T. Atchison Frazer, who expressed regrets at not being able to attend the meeting because

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of serious illness in his family and extended his best wishes for a successful meeting. Suggestions for the 1941 fall meeting included Mammoth Cave, Henderson, Diamond Springs, Dawson Springs, and the Coalings area between the Cumberland and Tennessee Rivers, the last-named area being especially noted for its wild deer and wild turkey. Mrs. Alice Moore told of the meeting of the Kentucky Wildlife and Natural History Conference at Otter Creek on September 20-22, which was attended by more than 200 people. She also told of the formation of the Kentucky Conservation Council at the Ridge Farm, near Pineville, of which Tom Wallace, editor of the LOUISVILLE TIMES, was elected president. Club membership in the council is $2.00 a year. A motion was made and seconded that the K. O. S. secretary apply for membership in the council. Mr. Albert F. Ganier invited the K. O. S. members to the 25th anniversary meeting of the T. O. S. in Nashville on October 19-20. A discussion of how membership fees should be collected was held, but as no decision was reached, the matter will be left to the discretion of the secretary-treasurer. After this discussion the business meeting was adjourned, and dinner was served.

In the evening our group enjoyed a varied program. Mrs. F. Everett Frei gave a delightfully entertaining talk on "Bird Banding and Adventure." She described the methods employed in trapping and banding birds, the behavior of various species when in the hand, and the elaborate way she and Mr. Frei, assisted by Boy Scouts, had banded several hundred Chimney Swifts. Dr. Gordon Wilson in his usual pleasing manner spoke on "Sparrows and Warblers." From his records for the last twenty-five years he told which of these birds have been recorded in the Bowling Green and Mammoth Cave areas as permanent, summer, winter residents, or as migrants. Mr. Albert F. Ganier, with the aid of study skins, gave an instructive talk on "Something about Woodpeckers." He gave some of the peculiarities of the anatomy of woodpeckers, their range, their feeding and nesting habits, and how to identify the various species. Mr. Floyd S. Carpenter illustrated his talk on "Effect of Environment on Bird Distribution" with beautiful natural color slides which were representative of many different habitats and all the four seasons. The slides included scenes taken all the way from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Gulf of Mexico to Alaska.

On October 6 both an early-morning and a mid-morning walk were made, and a surprisingly large number of birds were reported. Many of the crowd drove to Sky Bridge, in the Cumberland National Park, fifteen miles away. After a delicious chicken dinner the crowd began to break up. Every one who attended the meeting agreed that it was the best fall meeting in the history of the K. O. S.

The following people were present at all or part of the meeting: Louisville—Mabel Slack, Dr. William M. Clay, Dorothy Peil, Helen Peil, Amy Deane, Audrey Wright, Marie Peiper, Emma ONeal, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thacher, Betty Thacher, Evelyn J. Schneider, Esther Mason, Floyd S. Carpenter, Kathryn Montgomery, Nancy M. Warren, Vera Henderson, Mrs. Alice Moore, Evelyn Moore, Olga Tafel, Lucien Beckner, Grace Schneider; Lexington—Dr. and Mrs. J. D. Figgins, Major Victor K. Dodge, Amy Bergmann, Ethel Young, Maud A. Foy, Vivian Starns, Mary Didlake, Nancy Didlake, Mrs. Charles J. Smith, Emily Barnes, Mrs. Bullock, Mrs. Gratz, Mrs.

Lewis, Isabel Clay, Helen Harms, Dr. Gladys Southwick, John A. Patten, H. A. Olsen, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene R. Simpson; Hazard—Mrs. T. E. Moore; Cynthiana—Mr. and Mrs. John H. Mayer, Beulah Marsh; Carlisle—Virgil D. King; Bowling Green—Gordon Wilson; Detroit, Michigan—Mrs. George Kelly; Nashville, Tennessee—Mrs. F. C. Laskey, A. F. Ganier; Madisonville—Thelma Gentry; Shelbyville—Mrs. Ben Allen Thomas, Mrs. Stanley G. Bandeen; Glasgow—Mrs. F. Everett Frei; Berea—James Arthur, John S. Bangson, Nellie I. Crabb, Miriam Evans, Nellie I. Floyd, Shelby Gay, John Haun, Joseph Haun, Carl Jenkins, John B. Loefer, Ruth Loefer, Fred Perry, Beatrice Richards, Daniel Thorington, Hoy Wesley.

Birds seen on our hikes were the following: Bluebird, Indigo Bunting, Catbird, Cardinal, Carolina Chickadee, Crow, Brown Creeper, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Flicker, Crested Flycatcher, Goldfinch, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Pigeon Hawk, Blue Jay (the most distinctive bird of the park while we were there), Kingfisher, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Nighthawk, White-breasted Nuthatch, Oven-bird, Screech Owl, Phoebe, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, English Sparrow, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Wood Thrush, Tufted Titmouse, Towhee, Blue-headed Vireo, Bay-breasted Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Hooded Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Carolina Wren, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Ruffed Grouse.

—VIRGIL D. KING, Secretary-Treasurer

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GLASGOW BIRD CLUB ORGANIZED

After a preliminary meeting in March, 1940, at which the ground work for a bird club was laid, a group of twenty bird students of Glasgow met on the evening of April 25 to perfect an organization. The name chosen was The Glasgow Bird Club, nothing particularly startling. A constitution was drawn up, by-laws suggested, and the following officers elected:

President—F. Everett Frei.

Vice-President—Dr. F. Edwards.

Secretary-Treasurer—Clayton Gooden.

A board of directors composed of the officers together with Dr. E. L. Palmore, Mrs. Kyle J. Taylor, and Miss Lennie Britt was also chosen. Program, publicity, and membership committees were appointed and purposes and objectives discussed. The regular meeting date was set for the fourth Thursday evening in each month, and the temporary meeting place is by invitation to the various homes. A field meeting is to be held each month, the date being set at the preceding regular meeting. Most of the field trips have been held at 4:30 on Sunday mornings, the group returning in time for Sunday School. A number of members have done some distinctive photography of nests and birds. The membership is now twenty-eight with some dozen others who have signified their intention to join.

* * * * * *

NEWS

Our former secretary-treasurer, now our vice-president, Virgil D. King, took his A. M. degree at the University of Kentucky this spring. He did the latter part of his work on Saturdays, since he has been stationed as biologist with the Soil Conservation Service. In early May he helped make a breeding bird census on the Indian Creek Project, just out of Hamilton, Ohio. He also took numerous pictures for the Service there and elsewhere.

Otis W. Allen, of Bowling Green, received his master's degree this summer from Ohio State University. Mr. Allen has studied every summer recently at Stone Laboratory, at Put-in-Bay, the biological station of Ohio State.

Dr. Wilfred A. Welter, long a member of our society, was killed last Christmas in an automobile accident near Chicago. Dr. Welter had been in the Biology Department at Morehead Teachers College since 1932 and had been head of the department since 1935. Besides his studies of the Long-billed Marsh Wren growing out of his doctor's thesis at Cornell, Dr. Welter had published eleven other studies in ornithology and biology. Our society has lost a great scientist and a charming gentleman.

An active bird club is developing at Berea College under the supervision of Professors Loefer and Bangson. John A. Patten, one of the original members, is now doing graduate work at the University of Kentucky.

Humphrey A. Olsen, who some years ago taught at Caney Junior College, is now doing graduate work at the University of Kentucky.

Dr. Cynthia Counce, formerly at the Eastern State Hospital, at Lexington, is now connected with the Western Hospital, at Hopkinsville.

Mrs. L. G. Hobson, since the death of her husband, has returned to Indiana, her old home, and is now teaching in high school in Indianapolis.

Mrs. George Kelly, of Detroit, reports a very active bird club recently organized there. Mrs. Kelly seldom misses a fall meeting in her native Kentucky.

Dr. A. L. Pickens, of Paducah Junior College, has recently issued a check-list of vertebrates of Western Kentucky.

William M. Walker, Jr., formerly of Hopkinsville but for a long time connected with T. V. A., is now the president of the Tennessee Ornithological Society.

* * * * * *

WARBLERS IN MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK

Early this spring I determined to list as many warblers in Mammoth Cave National Park as possible. During the last four years I have studied the park area most of my spare time, but I had never seen the area in warbler migration time. Beginning with our K. O. S. meeting there on April 6-7, I have had thirteen field trips there to date (late October), a total of twenty days. In that time I have camped in six different places and roved over some of the wildest parts of the park. On May 5 I found nineteen species of warblers; on May 12, twenty-five. All told, my warbler list there for 1940 is twenty-nine. By careful observation through the spring and summer I determined that the following species nest in the area: Yellow-breasted Chat, Oven-bird, Louisiana Water-thrush, Black and White, Blue-winged, Worm-eating, Cerulean, Hooded, Kentucky, Maryland Yellow-throat, Redstart, Sycamore, Yellow, Prairie, Prothonotary, and Parula. The four of these that I had not previously proved as nesters—Cerulean, Blue-winged, Parula, and Worm-eating—were found nesting or else feeding their young. The Bachman's should be in the area, since it has been known to nest in southern Kentucky. On two widely-separated trips I thought I had seen this species, but I could never get a good enough look to decide. That will leave me something to look hard for in 1941.

—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green

* * * * * *

"AS OTHERS SEE US"

(Editor's Note—Sometimes it is good to see how we impress others, particularly people who know nothing about birds. Ernie Pyle, who conducts a column called "The Roving Reporter," ran into our Mr. and Mrs. John H. Mayer in Brown County State Park near Nashville, Indiana. He went with them and some others on an early-morning bird hike and good-humoredly reported his experience to his newspapers. Here is his report, a good sample of his charming wit and good humor:)

John Horton came past my cabin at 4 o'clock in the morning and honked 'til I woke up. I could have killed him.

But that was the agreement; so I somehow staggered out into the world and got myself dressed. It was just getting daylight.

Every morning for a week I had been awakening naturally just before dawn and standing in the doorway to watch the first faint dawn come up over the green ridges.

But this morning, of course, knowing I was going on a trip, I was in an agony for sleep. I don't know what ever made me agree to it. But the boys had said something about taking a dawn hike through the state park, and I, thinking at the time about the state of my soul or something equally vague, had said, "Oh, sure." And now I was.

Five of us gathered at the big Abe Martin Lodge up in the middle of the state park: John Horton, Johnny Wallace, the park naturalist, a couple from Louisville (Cynthiana—Ed.) who come up here very summer for a vacation, and myself.

Johnny Wallace had orange juice for all of us, which we drank out on the terrace. And I practically nauseated everybody by drinking a bottle of milk, right on top of the orange juice. But a man in my condition has to have some kind of bracer at dawn.

So we started out.

And do you know what this thing turned out to be? A bird hunt. No. I do not mean we were hunting with guns. These people were all bird fanatics, and they just go out hiking at dawn to listen to birds sing and try to see how many kinds of birds they can identify. I could have killed the whole bunch—people, birds, and all.

We drove several miles; then parked the car. Each took a pair of field glasses and started walking. The rest of them started seeing birds right away. Each time they'd give a little scream and stop dead in their tracks like pointer dogs and then talk to themselves.

Johnny Horton wrote down in a notebook every kind of bird they saw, and when we returned two hours later, he had 32 different kinds on his list. As for me, I saw only two.

In the first place, I was so sleepy I couldn't have seen a bird if one had lit on my nose. And, in the second place, I've already seen a lot of birds in my lifetime.

The only thing that kept me awake at all was marveling at the strange talk of these bird fanciers. Once we were all standing in a little group, quiet as mice, waiting for a bird to come along, when Naturalist Johnny Wallace said, not to any one of us, but just unconsciously and out into space: "Tufted Titmouse—tapwee, tapwee, tapwee!"

I would have answered his remark, except what would you say?

Now and then the group would suddenly stop and somebody would question, "Hear it? See-Toe-hee. See-Toe-hee!"

And Johnny heard a black-throated warbler that sings, "Trees, trees, murmuring trees."

Except he told about having a fellow along one morning who couldn't make anything out of the warbler's song except "Cheese, cheese, Limburger cheese." There was a man I know I could love.

Those people saw birds in trees where I couldn't even see a tree. And they constantly heard birds where I heard nothing but a ringing in my ears.

The only two birds I ever saw were a Kingfisher and a Scarlet Tanager. The Kingfisher was sitting on a fence along a lake, watching the fish in the water. And since he didn't move for five minutes, I finally did get a focus on him. The Scarlet Tanager flew past and was such a streak of violent red that even a man in a stupor couldn't help seeing it.

Fortunately, we found a few other things besides birds, or they would have had to carry me home. We found a tree toad and a frog, and Johnny Horton caught them in his hands and showed the feminine section of our caravan something about their eyes.

And Johnny Walace found a locust, about the size of your little finger, whose body had been half eaten away by some insect, yet the locust was still alive, and his wings were going a mile a minute.

And we heard the bell that gets the CCC boys up at 6 (the lucky loafers) in their camp somewhere off through the brush. And we saw some poison ivy and walked around it.

Somehow, around 7 o'clock, we got home, and I went back to bed. It would be nice if there weren't such things as birds; but then I suppose people would want to go looking for tree-leaves or drops of glistening dew at 4 o'clock in the morning.

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JUST TO REMIND YOU

Since a large number of our members have come into the K. O. S. within recent years, it seems desirable to review the history of our organization for their enlightenment. The society was organized in April, 1923, the founders being Dr. L. Otley Pindar, Versailles; Mr. Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green, and Mr. B. C. Bacon, Madisonville. These three became the first officers of the organization, Dr. Pindar as president, Mr. Bacon as vice-president, and Mr. Wilson as secretary-treasurer. The first program meeting was held at Louisville in April, 1924. Among other matters considered at this session was a fall meeting; the one planned for 1924 was abandoned after it became known that the Wilson Ornithological Club would meet that fall at Nashville. A number of the members of our society attended this meeting and planned for future meetings in the fall. Spring meetings have been held regularly at Louisville since the organization of the society. Beginning in 1925 fall meetings have been held in various parts of the state: 1925, Bowling Green; 1926, Henderson; 1927, Murray; 1928, Hodgenville; 1929, Elkton; 1930, Marion; 1931, Bowling Green; 1932, Madisonville; 1933, Madisonville; 1934, Wickliffe; 1935, Mammoth Cave; 1936, Franklin; 1937, Henderson; 1938, Lexington; 1939, Paducah; 1940, Natural Bridge State Park.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER made its bow to the public in January, 1925, and has appeared quarterly ever since. Dr. Wilson has edited it all this time except for two years, when Mr. Burt Monroe ably conducted our publication. Beginning with the October, 1934, issue, the four-page leaflet was changed to one of eight pages; this in turn became twelve pages with the winter, 1938, issue, when our magazine took on the attractive cover drawn by Mr. A. F. Ganier, the godfather of the K. O. S.

Our officers have been as follows:

PRESIDENT—

Dr. L. Otley Pindar—1923-25.
Dr. Gordon Wilson—1925-29.
Dr. T. Atchison Frazer—1929-33.
Mr. B. C. Bacon—1933-38.
Mr. Burt L. Monroe—1938-39.
Miss Evelyn J. Schneider—1939-.

VICE-PRESIDENT—

Mr. B. C. Bacon—1923-25.
Miss Emilie Yunker—1925-29.
Miss Mary May Wyman—1929-33.
Dr. T. Atchison Frazer—1933-34.
Mr. Edward M. Ray—1934-36.
Dr. Gordon Wilson—1936-37.
Mr. Burt L. Monroe—1937-38.
Mr. Raymond J. Fleetwood—1938-40.
Mr. Virgil D. King—1940-.

SECRETARY-TREASURER—

Dr. Gordon Wilson—1923-25.
Mrs. Charles McBride—1925-29.
Mr. Edward M. Ray—1929-33.
Miss Mabel Slack—1933-36.
Miss Evelyn J. Schneider—1936-38.
Mr. Edward M. Ray—1936-38.
Mr. Virgil D. King—1938-40.
Miss Thelma Gentry—1940-.

Our field trips at the time of the fall meeting have been distinctive; practically every year there has been an excellent spring field trip at Louisville. In 1925 we visited Mr. Carl D. Herdman's bird sanctuary near Bowling Green; in 1926 we had with us on our outing at Atkinson Park, Henderson, Miss Harriet Audubon, the grand-daughter of the famous naturalist; in 1927 we visited Devil's Pulpit, in eastern Calloway County; in 1928 the Lincoln Farm near Hodgenville was the scene of our outing; in 1929 we investigated the Todd County cliffs; in 1930 Dr. Frazer led the crowd to his favorite Panther Hollow, in Crittenden County; in 1931 Drs. Wilson and Lancaster introduced the society to the wild country at the edge of the Mammoth Cave National Park, near Brownsville; in 1932 and 1933 we remained a whole day at Mr. Bacon's Spring Lake Sanctuary at Madisonville; in 1934 we spent the week-end after our meeting at Reelfoot Lake; in 1935 we wandered over much of the Mammoth Cave National Park area; in 1936 we joined the Tennessee Ornithological Society at Red River, just below the Kentucky-Tennessee state line; in 1937 we returned to Henderson and spent an afternoon and a morning in visiting the Audubon Memorial State Park and the heron rookery under our auspices near Diamond Island; in 1938 Major Victor Dodge led us over the rich bluegrass Simms Farm, near Lexington; in 1939 Mr. Raymond Fleetwood introduced us to Lake Genevieve, near Paducah; and in 1940 we wandered here and there over Natural Bridge State Park and in the Cumberland National Forest near Sky Bridge. To have associated with all the fine people who love birds and to have walked with them in such beauty spots have been worth all the time and money necessary to organize and promote the K. O. S. Outsiders can never know how much this association means to all of us on the inside.

From a tiny group of three members we have grown to a respectable society of more than a hundred regular members. Many others have come and gone, but a nucleus of the faithful ones have kept the K. O. S. full of interest and out of debt, two highly desirable things for any club. We appreciate our old-timers and welcome to our club all those who have entered in recent years. We hope this review of our accomplishments as a society has not seemed condescending in tone, for it was intended to make all of us informed about this group of people whom we like to work with.

PRAIRIE HORNED LARKS NESTING IN GRANT COUNTY

On June 7, 1940, Mr. David S. Clarke, of the Soil Conservation Service, fouund a Prairie Horned Lark's nest in a bluegrass pasture near Dry Ridge, Grant County. On June 11 I photographed this nest after flushing the adult bird. Two days later I went back with a blind to photograph the adult on the nest but found that hogs had destroyed the nest. The nest, containing five eggs, was located in a small depression in a closely grazed pasture. An old cornstalk lay along the side of the nest. Although Prairie Horned Larks were commonly seen by me in the ridgetop pastures of Grant and Pendleton Counties, this is the only nest that I ever saw.

—VIRGIL D. KING, Carlisle.

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OUR CHRISTMAS CENSUSES

Not long after this issue comes to you, you will need to be planning your Christmas census. In order to make the best possible showing for your area, take some preliminary surveys, trying to locate all the possible species, so that you can come back later and list them for your census. Spend a whole day and get as many bird students as you can to join you. Go in several parties if you can get enough trained observers to lead them, and, most of all, set up some goal from your previous experiences to make you exhaust all possibilities to find all of the birds. After the day is over, tabulate your finds, by species and individuals, and send them to the editor for the next issue. There ought to be so many censuses that some new method of printing them would have to be resorted to. Nothing would please the editor more than to have to use ingenuity to get all the reports into one issue. While you are sending your census, also enclose some field notes. We are always in need of notes.

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OUR NEW CONSTITUTION

The new constitution, adopted at Natural Bridge State Park, is in many ways better than our old one. Provisions are made for active participation in conservation drives in our state, for publications as funds become available, for student membership, and for sustaining membership for those who would like to give the society a small financial lift. All the old features that have proved valuable were reincorporated in the new constitution. Members who did not receive a copy can secure one by writing the president.

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SILVER ANNIVERSARY T. O. S.

On October 19 and 20, 1940, the Tennessee Ornithological Society celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary. On the afternoon of October 19 there were field trips near Nashville, ending with a trip to Mr. A. F. Ganier's "Hobby House," at his home at 2112 Woodlawn Drive. In the evening at the B. & W. Cafeteria, in downtown Nashville, a spirited program was given by local and out-of-state members, the highlights being brief speeches by the three living founders of the T. O. S.: Dr. George R. Mayfield, Mr. Dixon Merritt, and Mr.

A. F. Ganier. Visiting members spent the night at the cottages of Dr. Mayfield, Mr. Ganier, and Dr. Vaughn, at Idlewild Wood, ten miles from Nashville, on Stone's River. The next morning they were joined by local and other people for a morning field trip. Some ninety people were present. Luncheon was served out-of-town guests by the Nashville Chapter. A list of 41 species of birds was turned in by the various parties.

We, of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, congratulate our elder sister society and wish long and happy years ahead. But for the T. O. S. and its success there would have never been a K. O. S. as such. We have profited by every activity of the neighboring group and have felt free to borrow ideas almost every year of our existence. Eight years hence, in 1948, our own group will be celebrating its silver anniversary and is right now inviting to participate in our celebration the members of the T. O. S.

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THE EFFECT OF LAND USE ADJUSTMENTS ON WILDLIFE POPULATIONS IN THE OHIO VALLEY REGION

By C. A. DAMBACH, Regional Biologist

(Editor's Note—The following extracts from an address by Mr. C. A. Dambach before the Fifth North American Wildfowl Conference should be of interest to all of us. Much good work has been done in the state and neighboring states in reforestation. Our own vice-president, Virgil D. King, has cooperated in wildlife censuses in one of the areas mentioned in this article, which was furnished the society by our Mr. Forrest Durand, of Paducah).

The definite relation of land use to wildlife populations has been recognized by economic biologists. Moss found that in Connecticut, as the area in cultivation was reduced, population of Bob-white quail, pheasants, and cottontail rabbits dropped off rapidly. For instance, during the 50-year period from 1880 to 1930 quail declined in abundance and disappeared over much of its range. During approximately the same period crop acreage decreased from 1,600,000 to 550,000 acres.

Through the activities of state agencies and the various bureaus of the Federal Government millions of acres of land subject to erosion, when cultivated, are being protected by permanent cover of grass, trees, or shrubs or so farmed that erosion is reduced to the barest minimum. It has been estimated that only about 39% of the present crop land of the United States can be safely cultivated under prevailing practices, while under good conservation practices an additional 43% can be cultivated safely. The remaining 18% of the present crop land should be retired from cultivation to permanent vegetative cover. Should such retirement actually take place, it would place an additional 76,000,000 acres under permanent vegetative cover. It follows logically that biologists should consider the effect of such adjustments on wildlife populations.

Readjustments in land use and in farming methods are being demonstrated through several types of programs, including watershed demonstration projects, Soil Conservation CCC Camps, and Soil Conservation Districts. The plan is a formal written agreement between the farmer and the cooperating agency for a five-year period or longer, during which, working together, a permanent soil-conserving program is established in keeping with the abilities of the man and the land.

As has already been pointed out by Moss, changes in crop acreage materially affect populations of certain game species. This is equally true of non-game species. Studies made in southwestern Ohio, for instance, indicate that meadows average about 50 pairs of breeding birds per 100 acres compared to an average of 10 pairs per 100 acres in small grains (wheat, rye, oats). In corn, populations were found to average slightly over 3 pairs per 100 acres. In this area meadow populations were found to be 4.5 times as great as those in small grain and 15 times as great as those in corn. Any material shift in acreage from corn and small grain to meadow thus makes for potential conditions that may result in a material increase in the population of farm breeding birds.

Rearrangement of farm layout to permit introduction of conservation practices such as strip-cropping, contour cultivation, and crop acreage changes also affects farm wildlife populations. On the Indian Creek Project Area of the Soil Conservation Service in Butler County, Ohio, contour strip cropping resulted in an increase of breeding birds on meadow and small grain crops of approximately twice the populations on large fields of the same crops. Cornfields in strips showed no significant difference over non-stripped fields. On the negative side of the picture, however, is the fact that establishment of strip cropping often reduces the total length of permanent border on a farm. Loss of populations due to loss of field border varies with the quality of vegetation in the border.

Areas retired to woodland or for permanent wildlife cover rapidly become havens for many game and non-game species. One badly eroded area near Dry Ridge, Kentucky, which was planted to black locust in the spring of 1937, illustrates clearly the ability of an area to revegetate itself and become reinhabited by wildlife after protection. On this area of 3 acres there were found during the summer of 1939, 15 occupied nests of 6 different species of birds. Later in the season an additional 8 nests were located which had evidently been occupied by fledgelings during the summer.

Other conservation practices affecting farm wildlife populations, such as sod waterways in cultivated fields, meadow and shrub buffer strips, woodland borders, windbreak plantings, live shrub dams, vegetated terrace outlets, and so on, might be cited. That their application is becoming widespread is evident from the spread of these practices to farms outside of work units and the interest of farmers in organizing districts to facilitate soil conservation planning on their farms.

On the Indian Creek project in Butler County, Ohio, breeding bird censuses conducted for 3 years indicate that major land use changes on farms planned result in increased populations per farm of a little over 38%. This change is due mainly to a decided increase in protected woods, new woodland plantings, meadow and pasture, and a corresponding reduction in crop land.

Biologists should be aware of the influence land use changes have on farm wildlife populations and the land use changes being

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planned in the future. To meet new problems introduced by necessary agricultural adjustments, compensatory or complementary practices beneficial to wildlife use may be needed. On the whole, however, it appears that these changes point to improved farm biotic conditions.

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NELSON'S SPARROW

We were walking along the abandoned car track in Indian Hills, near Louisville, bent on reaching an overflowed cornfield, when our attention was attracted by a tiny sparrow. It crept along the ground or flew so low a few feet at a time that at first we thought it must be injured. We then noticed its unusual markings and realized that we were adding a new life record, April 30, 1940.

The sparrow had a lot of yellow on the sides of its head, and a sharp-pointed tail. Its breast was streaked very lightly, the lines seeming to form a necklace across its breast. All these points showed clearly that it was a Sharp-tailed Sparrow. Since Nelson's Sparrow (**Ammospiza caudacuta nelsoni**) is the only subspecies to be expected so far from the coast, there would seem to be little doubt that the bird belonged to this subspecies. The Acadian Sharp-tailed is described as a "decidedly pale bird," whereas our specimen was rather distinctly marked, especially on the back.

The Nelson's Sparrow in question was very tame and crept along in the weeds quite unafraid, allowing us to approach within eight or ten feet. It finally flew to a low limb, where it posed while we made notes on its breast markings. Its fluttering flight close to the ground and curious mouse-like creeping were especially interesting features of this rare sparrow.
—FLOYD S. CARPENTER AND HARVEY LOVELL, Louisville.

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PRAIRIE HORNED LARKS

Mr. King's note on Prairie Horned Larks in this issue suggests that we ought to determine the summer range of this subspecies in our state. Please write the editor any record you have of this bird in summer, with exact dates, and especially send any accounts of its nest that you have.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therfore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Virgil D. King, Secretary-Treasurer, Soil Conservation Service, Falmouth, Kentucky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in the Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Teachers College, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Division of Birds

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
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NATIONAL MUSEUM

Winter
1941

Vol. 17
No. 1

. . . The . . .
Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Vol. XVII **WINTER, 1941** **Number 1**

FIRST KENTUCKY WILDLIFE AND NATURAL HISTORY CONFERENCE

By HARVEY B. LOVELL, Louisville

Professional and amateur naturalists from all parts of Kentucky met at Otter Creek Recreational Demonstration Area from September 20 to 22, 1940. This meeting was made possible by the cooperation of the Louisville Natural History Club, the W. P. A. Recreation Project, the Beckham Bird Club, the National Park Service, the Louisville Astronomical Association, and the Louisville Municipal Hiking Club. Among the 200 present were many members of the K. O. S., who took part in the bird hikes and the numerous other activities of the conference. The events on the program included five symposia on the following topics: Camera Trails, Kentucky Plants, Animal Life in Kentucky, Geology of Kentucky, and Wildlife and Conservation in Kentucky. I shall report some of the things that were of interest to K. O. S. people.

Mr. Earl G. Wright, of the Chicago Academy of Science, nationally known ornithologist and bird artist, showed colored motion pictures on Friday night. The films, entitled "Animal Life of the Arizona Deserts," were taken when he acted as photographer for an expedition to the arid Southwest. Besides numerous animal forms and desert vegetation, the films included the Red-backed Junco, the Western Cardinal, the Western Red-tailed Hawk, the Red-eyed Cowbird, and numerous woodpeckers, doves, and other desert species. Mr. Wright also displayed 48 sketches of birds' heads made in the field, when the remarkable coloration was still fresh.

On Saturday night Dr. A. L. Pickens, of Paducah Junior College, an authority on the flower-visiting habits of the hummingbirds, spoke on "Adventures in Neighborhood Research." Other K. O. S. members who had an active part on the programs were Mrs. Alice Moore, Miss Mabel Slack, Dr. L. Y. Lancaster, Colonel Lucien Beckner, Mr. Carlyle Chamberlain, and Dr. W. M. Clay.

Several bird hikes were made, an especially interesting one being led by Mr. Reynold E. Carlson, Director of Nature Activities of the National Recreation Association. On Sunday morning an odd bird was seen by Misses Evelyn J. Schneider and Ann Stamm and me, which, because of its associates, we supposed to be an albinistic Field Sparrow. In general the birds were quite scarce, especially when compared with their abundance in the same area last spring. Those taking part in the two-day census included Misses Evelyn J. Schneider, Emilie Yunker, Mabel Slack, Amy Deane, Vera Henderson, Esther Mason, and Audrey Wright; Mrs. Baylor

Hickman, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Mr. and Mrs. John Prentice, and Messrs. Kent Previette and Earl G. Wright. At the business session on Sunday it was voted to begin plans for a similar conference next fall and to invite all organizations in the state which are interested in any phase of natural history. Dr. P. A. Davies was made chairman of a Steering Committee to direct the 1941 conference.

The following 35 species of birds were recorded: Turkey Vulture, Red-shouldered Hawk, Bob-white, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Phoebe, Wood Pewee, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Cedar Waxwing, White-eyed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Nashville Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Maryland Yellow-throat, Red-winged Blackbird, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Goldfinch, Towhee, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

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CONSERVATION FOR WHAT?

By P. A. DAVIES, University of Louisville

During the past several years interest in the conservation and restoration of wild life has increased by leaps and bounds. So rapidly has this interest spread that it has become a national theme. Everybody seems to be trying to compensate for yesterday's neglect and slaughter. Whenever men get together in national, state, and local groups to discuss problems of natural history, conservation is so interwoven in the pattern of the program that it frequently dominates the discussions. Many programs are given over entirely to the many phases of conservation. Hardly a month passes without a personal or circular letter in my mail asking for a donation to keep up the work of wildlife organizations or aid in saving the ducks, the hawks, the redwoods, etc. Newspapers and magazines, both popular and scientific, carry frequent articles on some phase of wildlife conservation. The radio tells us what various organizations are doing to conserve or restore the wild life. When one goes through the large mass of conservation material which has appeared in the past few years, it leaves him bewildered. There appears to be a lack of any uniform aims and methods for a sound conservation program. One arrives at the question, "Conservation for what?" What are we trying to conserve, and how are we going to do it?

As time goes on, there will emerge from this confusion certain interest groups that will dominate and control our wildlife program. The groups that dominate will have a solid front, backed by clear aims or goals, and with a unified program. Will this dominating group champion a program that recognizes wildlife as an economic and recreational asset to be restored and protected, or will its interest be solely to increase the numbers so that hunting will be more interesting? Time and interest groups will answer these questions, and we hope that they will be on the side of wildlife.

The sportsmen are the interest group now forging ahead. This is because of their clarity of aims and their financial backing. Their interests are usually selfish and one-sided. The hunter wants more ducks, quail, and other game birds as fodder for his gun; the fisherman wants more and bigger fish.

In this race for wildlife conservation leadership, what are the ornithologists doing? Are we willing to remain passive and allow certain interest groups determine what birds shall be killed, how, when, and in what numbers? Are we too much interested in watching for the first bird in the spring or the last one in the fall, compiling bird records, banding, or collecting skins or eggs to look the situation in the face and do something about it? Have we no ears for the warnings of the departed Heath Hen, the Labrador Duck, or the Passenger Pigeon? We may think that our friends are guaranteed by the Migratory Bird Act, but we must remind ourselves that the sportsmen play a greater role than the ornithologists in determining the season and the extent of the kill of ducks, geese, and other migratory game birds. Could this not happen to other birds as well? Our song birds are poorly protected from hunters by an insufficient number of game wardens, some of whom are incompetent; besides, there are unsympathetic judges. During the 1940 season within a mile radius of my home I have found three Cardinals, three Robins, and one Blackbird either dead or crippled from rifle shot. Recently I spent almost an hour persuading four boys with a rifle not to kill a Little Blue Heron. They departed unwillingly but may have returned later to the kill. Such destruction should not continue unheeded.

Ornithological organizations could and should assume a definite leadership in the wildlife conservation program. There are no other groups that have the interest and responsibility for bird protection. It is their definite obligation to save the birds for future generations of ornithologists and nature lovers, not as dried museum specimens, but as living, flying, nesting birds. They shouuld formulate a definite conservation program with clear aims and work doggedly toward its accomplishment.

The program should enter the schools as an integrated part of the subject taught and not as a separate unit given in any particular year. The social sciences and humanities as well as the natural sciences should assume the instructional obligations. Students should know the economic and recreational value of birds and how nature's balance depends on them. They should understand the importance of protection from exploitation, so that they may live within their own rights and be of value to future generations.

Clubs and business organizations should be solicited for their aid. They should be repeatedly impressed with the recreational and economic values of birds. Women's organizations and garden clubs are always willing to aid in vital programs. They are waiting for an opportunity to do their part.

The majority of farmers and stockmen have an interest in wildlife and an antagonistic attitude toward the game-hogs. The "Posted" and "No Hunting" signs clearly indicate this. This friendly spirit of the farmer and stockman should ripen into the best protective agency in our land. The public at large is indifferent to wildlife conservation because the real facts are never presented. It believes that America is still a frontier land with an abundance of wildlife. If explained to it in terms it could understand, it would rally to the cause and help form a solid front for the protection of all types of wildlife.

Ornithological organizations should be so strongly organized in members, sympathetic backers, a definite constructive program, and finances that they could answer the question "Conservation for what?" with such pressure as to become the dominating interest groups in the program of conservation, restoration, and use of our wildlife.

OUR CHRISTMAS CENSUSES

We have tabulated to save space the ten state Christmas censuses (Cedar Hill, Tennessee, is counted on this list because it is barely across the state line). After the tabulation you will find the data on the time, place, and observers of the censuses. In general the number of species is smaller than usual, probably because of the hard winter of 1939-1940 and the dry fall of 1940, which probably discouraged winter residents. Lack of space prevents our printing the out-of-state censuses; we are grateful for them, however, and hope that we may continue to receive them.

KENTUCKY CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS, 1940	Henderson	Bowling Green	Glasgow (Rotary Camp)	Glasgow (Beaver Creek)	Louisville	John's Run	Marion	Cedar Hill, Tenn.	Paducah	Anchorage
1. Double-crested Cormorant										3
2. Mallard	1				304					950
3. Black Duck					80					450
4. Pintail					2					2
5. Green-winged Teal										1
6. Redhead										2
7. Lesser Scaup					20					10
8. American Golden-eye										120
9. Buffle-head					3					8
10. Old-squaw										2
11. White-winged Scoter										2
12. Ruddy Duck					2					
13. Hooded Merganser					4					
14. American Merganser					38					4
15. Red-breasted Merganser										1
16. Turkey Vulture			3					2		1
17. Black Vulture		7	4					5		2
18. Sharp-shinned Hawk							1			
19. Cooper's Hawk							1			
20. Red-tailed Hawk		7					1			1
21. Red-shouldered Hawk		2	2		1			2		1
22. Marsh Hawk		1						2		1
23. Sparrow Hawk		4	1		6		8	2	1	19
24. Bob-white				2	6		14		2	14
25. Killdeer										2
26. Herring Gull					15				28	65
27. Ring-billed Gull										1
28. Mourning Dove	100	18	100	1	1		34	2		50
29. Screech Owl										1
30. Barred Owl	1	1					1	1		1
31. Belted Kingfisher					1				1	1
32. Flicker	14	13	2	4	13	1	12	8		16
33. Pileated Woodpecker		14	1	2			3	2		
34. Red-bellied Woodpecker	7	20	2	5	5		4	14		34

KENTUCKY CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS, 1940	Henderson	Bowling Green	Glasgow (Rotary Camp)	Glasgow (Beaver Creek)	Louisville	John's Run	Marion	Cedar Hill, Tenn.	Paducah	Anchorage
35. Red-headed Woodpecker		3	40	1	7					2
36. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2	2						1		1
37. Hairy Woodpecker	5	3	3		1	1	2	3		5
38. Downy Woodpecker	11	32	3	2	12	5	15	12	3	26
39. Northern Horned Lark										8
40. Prairie Horned Lark		66					23	8		128
41. Blue Jay	7	16	9	25	37		16	41	1	23
42. Crow	500	205	1225	1106	70	8	45	63	1	65
43. Carolina Chickadee	20	102	24	48	40	24	70	23	3	116
44. Tufted Titmouse	9	64	24	24	58	13	71	66	1	145
45. White-breasted Nuthatch	1	9			4			1		16
46. Brown Creeper		1			1	1		2		5
47. Winter Wren		2					2			
48. Bewick's Wren		3		1			2			
49. Carolina Wren		18	5	15	2	1	8	6	2	4
50. Mockingbird	1	12		1	12		12	2	2	5
51. Brown Thrasher		1								
52. Robin	2			22			4			2
53. Hermit Thrush		1						3		
54. Bluebird	10	46		6	13	23	60	2		12
55. Golden-crowned Kinglet				2				2		1
56. Cedar Waxwing		2		111			8			
57. Migrant Shrike		1			1		2			1
58. Starling	1	675	15	7	23000		47	400		3500
59. Myrtle Warbler				6						
60. English Sparrow	4	420		7	107	32		47	14	350
61. Meadowlark		75			13		140	30		7
62. Red-winged Blackbird									1	9
63. Bronzed Grackle		22		6			13		8	
64. Cowbird	3						26			1
65. Cardinal	60	73	51	59	116	17	62	54	10	324
66. Purple Finch		18		23				1		4
67. Pine Siskin									7	
68. Goldfinch	6	11	8	6	15	8	2	3	11	18
69. Red-eyed Towhee	8	8	12	13	10	3		39	4	22
70. Savannah Sparrow			4							
71. Vesper Sparrow							2			
72. Slate-colored Junco	65	145	23	21	141	62	400	37	1	435
73. Tree Sparrow	95	19		11	11	2	8	4		211
74. Field Sparrow	1	9	7	5	36	4	6		2	14
75. White-crowned Sparrow	10	54		7	3		3		11	7
76. White-throated Sparrow	1	58	2	28	3		2	23	1	60
77. Fox Sparrow	2	1	2	6					1	
78. Swamp Sparrow		6		5			3			3
79. Song Sparrow	11	22	2	40	71	13	60	5	5	36

Henderson: Dec. 23, 8:00 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. Audubon Memorial Park and vicinity. Clear, light east wind; temp. 35-45. About 7 miles on foot; observers together. Total, 31 species, about 1000 individuals. Other species seen in the same area during Christmas week: Screech Owl, Killdeer, Meadowlark, Migrant Shrike, Marsh Hawk, and Red-headed Woodpecker.—Virgil D. King and King C. Benson. Bowling Green: Dec. 22, 6:45 A. M. to 4:30 P. M., Chaney, McElroy, Covington, and Smith Farms; along Barren and Gasper Rivers and Drake's Creek. Heavy fog in morning; clearing by 11; no wind, temp. 33-45. Observers in groups as follows: Party I, 2 observers, 30 miles by car, 7 miles on foot, 9½ hours; Party II, 2 observers, 8 miles on foot, 8 hours; Party III, 3 observers, 8 miles on foot, 8 hours. Totals, 25½ hours, 30 miles by car, 23 miles on foot. Total, 46 species, 2292 individuals. Other species seen during Christmas week: Myrtle Warbler, Turkey Vulture, Rough-legged Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Kingfisher.—Hayward Brown, B. C. Cole, L. Y. Lancaster, C. L. Taylor, Ezzell Welborn, J. R. Whitmer, Gordon Wilson. Glasgow: Dec. 22, 9:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Camp Rotary, Crenshaw and Wilkinson Farms, along Skeggs Creek. Sky overcast, dense fog in morning; clearing at 11. light south wind; temp. 34-38. Observers together; area covered within a five-mile radius. Total, 26 species, 1574 individuals.—F. Everett Frei, H. Cal Rogers, Mrs. F. Everett Frei, (Glasgow Bird Club). Glasgow, Ky., Dec. 25, 7:45 A. M. to 3:20 P. M. Richey, Mansfield, Starr, Darter and Wininger Farms; along Beaver Creek and Ivy Bluffs. Sky overcast and very foggy; rain in morning; light north wind; temp. 46-54. On foot about 11 miles. Total, 34 species, 1558 individuals.—Russell Starr. Louisville, Dec. 29, 8:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Ohio River from Sixth Street to Taylor Creek; Cherokee Park, Cave Hill Cemetery, Indian Hills, Prospect area, and adjacent territory. Rain all day; windy; temp. 36-40. Observers in groups as follows: Party I, 4 observers, 40 miles by car, 5 miles on foot, 7 hours; Party II, 3 observers, 20 miles by car, 5 miles on foot, 6 hours; Party III, 2 observers, 5 miles by car, 5 miles on foot, 6 hours; Party IV, 1 observer, 60 miles by car, 4½ hours. Totals, 125 miles by car, 15 miles on foot, 25 hours. Total, 41 species, 24,284 individuals. Other species seen during Christmas week. Ring billed Gull, Pileated Woodpecker, Winter Wren.—Leonard C. Brecher, Mary Louise Brecher, Floyd S. Carpenter, Aleen Cartwright, William M. Clay, Harvey B. Lovell, Esther Mason, Evelyn J. Schneider, Charles Tracher, Audrey Wright, (Beckham Bird Club). John's Run, Carter County, Dec. 24, 9:00 A. M. to 3:00 P. M. Sky clear most of day; temp. 22-46. About 8 miles on foot through fields and woodland. Total, 17 species, 218 individuals.—Ercel Kozee. Marion, Dec. 25. Strong wind; cloudy; temp. 52. Total, 40 species, 1193 individuals.—Dr. T. Atchison and Chastain Frazer. Cedar Hill, Tenn., Dec. 29, 9:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Large marshy area between Springfield and Cedar Hill. No wind until noon, then strong west; cloudy, with mist in afternoon; temp. 38-45. Observers in three parties usually. Total, 37 species, 919 individuals.—Buddy Collier, Alfred Clesbsch, Dr. Charles Pickering, Clarksville: A. F. Ganier, Harry Monk, Arthur McMurray, William Simpson, Conrad Jamison, Nashville: Gordon Wilson, Harold Hughes, Bowling Green. Paducah: Dec. 31, 1:45 P. M. 'til dark. Barkley Park to Hook's Park area; streets; riverside; meadows; open fields; pasture land; copses and groves. Cloudy and foggy: temp. 58. Total, 25 species, 226 individuals.—A. L. Pickens. Anchorage: Dec. 22, 6.00 A. M. to 6:00 P. M. Anchorage, O'Bannon, Worthington, Ohio River, and surrounding territory. Fair, fog in morning; light northwest wind; temp. 38-50. Five observers working in three parties. Totals, 27 hours (23 on foot, 4 by car); 72 miles (12 on foot, 60 by car). Total, 63 species, 7,232 individuals.—Thomas Smith, Burt L. Monroe, Sr., Gerald T. Rogers, Robert M. Mengel, and Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (Rafinesque Ornithological Club).

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PROGRAM AND FIELD DAY AT GLASGOW

By MARY LOU FREI

The Glasgow Bird Club was host to a group of eighteen members of the K. O. S. for an open meeting and outing on November 23 and 24, 1940. These members, seventeen of them from the Beckham Bird Club, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. Everett Frei at a six o'clock "snack" supper, after which an interesting program was presented before an audience of members of the local club and other people from Glasgow in the Christian Church Education Auditorium. Mr. Frei welcomed the guests and introduced Miss Evelyn J. Schneider, who in turn introduced the program: Floyd S. Carpenter illustrated with slides "When and Where to Find What, if There:" Dr. Harvey B. Lovell discussed "From Myth to Mystery in Migration;" Miss Helen Peil gave a charming talk on "We Migrate to the Arctic Circle," illustrated with brilliant kodachrome slides.

Early Sunday morning the guests and local members drove through a dense fog to Camp Rotary, the Boy Scout camp on Skeggs Creek, nine miles from Glasgow. Mr. Cal Rogers and several Senior Scouts had gone earlier and put the cabin in shape, building a large, roaring fire. A short get-acquainted session was followed by a hike up Skeggs Creek and across the fields. A large flock of Red-headed Woodpeckers wintering in the beech woods of the camp, a Pileated Woodpecker, and two Winter Wrens were the big finds of this hike. Returning to Mess Hall, every one was ready for the hot breakfast prepared and served by Mrs. Cal Rogers, Mrs. W. C. Moss, and others. At the confab that followed various members of the Beckham Bird Club outlined the different phases of the statewide winter feeding project sponsored by the K. O. S. and W. P. A.

The high points of the afternoon hike down the creek were a mass flight of Cardinals and a large flock of Prairie Horned Larks. In spite of unfavorable weather our total for the day as follows: 33 species, 311 individuals. Here is the list: Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Killdeer, Mourning Dove, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Wood Pewee, Prairie Horned Lark, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Winter Wren, Carolina Wren, Bluebird, Golden-crowned Kinglet, English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Cardinal, Goldfinch, Red-eyed Towhee, Slate-colored Junco, Tree Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

The following people were present at all or part of the outings: Louisville: Evelyn J. Schneider, Mabel Slack, Helen Peil, Dorothy Peil, Amy Deane, Vera Henderson, Evelyn Moore, Mrs. Alice Moore, Emilie Yunker, Miss Winstanley, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard C. Brecher, Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Thacher, Kent Previette, Dr. Harvey B. Lovell, Floyd S. Carpenter; Bowling Green: Gordon Wilson; Glasgow: Mrs. W. C. Moss, Mrs. Frank Frei, Mr. and Mrs. Cal Rogers, Leonard Rogers, Lennie Britt, Addis Britt, Harold Evans, J. D. DeWeese, Clayton Gooden, Mr. and Mrs. F. Everett Frei.

K. O. S. COLLABORATES WITH W. P. A.

By KENT PREVIETTE, K. O. S.

A year ago the K. O. S. failed in its opportunity for stewardship; the state suffered successive snowstorms of long duration; nothing was done toward alleviating the distress of the birds; starvation took its toll. There is now considerable hope that such an indictment cannot be made a year hence. Here is news for our members.

Each year the Post Office Department authorizes rural mail carriers to distribute grain along their routes whenever there is need, the grain being provided by interested organizations or individuals. Our president, Miss Evelyn J. Schneider, Mrs. Alice Moore, nature technician of the Recreation Division of the Works Progress Administration, and some others decided to inaugurate a state-wide and winter-long campaign for conservation of bird life in Kentucky. An announcement of the plan was sent to all K. O. S. members and to all recreation centers of the W. P. A., numbering about 165. Winter feeding was stressed for December, with the general theme "Remember the Birds When Remembering Friends." Exhibits, programs, and radio talks were suggested for the whole state. Many excellent responses came from members, who had been asked for suggestions. Madisonville, Glasgow, Paducah, Owensboro, and Henderson, among other places, reported excellent meetings, exhibits, and programs in schools. Mrs. Frederick Stamm, vice-president of the Beckham Bird Club, prepared a paper, on request, on "The Economics of Winter Feeding." Through the facilities of W. P. A. this paper was edited for radio and read over several stations in the state and at WGBF, at Evansville, on the Henderson hour. It has also been arranged to make a recording of this paper for program use everywhere.

The Park Service of the Otter Creek Recreational Area supplied specifications for a bulk, automatic, all-weather feeder, which were mimeographed by the W. P. A. and sent out over the state. Other circulars were sent to various recreation centers and were also made available for K. O. S. members. These included specifications for a cocoanut feeding station for suet, a bird Christmas tree, a bird cafeteria, and various sheets appealing to children. Several attractive posters, made by the silk screen process, have been distributed by the W. P. A. staff, as have also numerous bookmarks.

The theme for January and February is housing and will be encouraged by a poster called "Bluebird Housing Administration." In March the theme will be identification and will be aided by another impressive poster. Conservation will probably be next.

Another feature of this collaboration of the K. O. S. and W. P. A. is material for a series of programs to be given over various radio stations for a period of several months. Four successive themes have been adopted: structure, migration, identification, and conservation. Various members of the K. O. S. are being asked to prepare papers, dialogues, and dramatizations. Monthly theme sheets for use at recreation centers and clubs are being prepared; this material is assembled by the K. O. S. and mimeographed and sent out by W. P. A.

The K. O. S. plans a feature of its own: a series of short articles or paragraphs concerning birds and bird habits, to be run in country newspapers.

Through rare good fortune it was learned that grain might possibly be obtained from the Grain Inspection Division of the Department of Agriculture. Formal application for this was made, and the department granted to the K. O. S. the use of all test grain handled by the inspection service of Louisville. The Biological Survey relinquished its claim in favor of the K. O. S., and as long as we are faithful in our stewardship, there will be available hundreds of pounds of grain for distribution to migratory and resident wild birds of Kentucky. Grain will have to be obtained from other sources this winter, since the arrangement was made after the reserve was used up for this winter.

The K. O. S. is on the threshold of a great opportunity for service and growth.

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BIRD FEEDING

By MRS. ALICE MOORE, W. P. A.

Here is a summary of the bird feeding program launched by the W. P. A. on December 1, 1940, in collaboration with the Kentucky Ornithological Society:

500 letters sent out; 500 leaflets—"Is Your Bird Cafeteria Ready?" 500 leaflets—"Automatic Weatherproof Feeder;" 500 leaflets—"Winter Bird Feeding;" 500 leaflets—"Birds' Christmas Tree," 500 leaflets—"Cocoanut Feeding Station;" 500 leaflets—"Johnny Santa Claus" (for Story Hour); 500 leaflets—"Scattering Santa Claus;" 300 posters—"Feed the Birds;" 300 posters—"Remember the Birds When Remembering Friends;" 25,000 bookmarks distributed through libraries in the state; 15-minute programs on radio stations at Paducah (2), Hopkinsville, Henderson (over WGBF, Evansville), Owensboro, Ashland, and Louisville (2); window displays and exhibits over the state; contacts made with rural mail carriers, who agree to distribute grain during bad weather, and with the Department of Agriculture, which donated all grain received at the Louisville office for distribution.

The sponsors' contribution to the end of 1940 has been the following: 1000 pounds of mixed grain, 1000 bags to sack grain, 5000 sheets mimeograph paper.

Newspaper publicity includes a "Point of View" letter in the COURIER-JOURNAL for December 1, 1940; an article on the sports page of the COURIER-JOURNAL for December 8, 1940; notices in the Covington and Glasgow papers.

Stewart Dry Goods Company, of Louisville, put a poster in the Children's Department with a pledge to be signed agreeing to feed the birds and reported that they got hundreds of signatures.

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EMILIE YUNKER—1865-1940

By MARY MAY WYMAN, Louisville

Emilie Yunker was born in Louisville on December 24, 1865, the oldest child of John and Elizabeth Yunker. She grew up surrounded by flowers, for her mother's garden was famous among residents of the eastern part of the city. From her mother she learned many of the little secrets so necessary to convert a plot of ground into a mass of beauty. As a child she attended the George W. Morris School and the Female High School. In 1884 she was graduated as salutatorian from the Louisville Normal School, with honors in German as well as in the general course. In the fall of that year there was only one position to be filled, that of teacher of German at the George W. Morris School. Tearfully Miss Yunker accepted the position, but she enjoyed it for the two years that she held it. Her knowledge of German was a source of satisfaction to her and a great pleasure to her more ignorant friends, who had considerable curiosity about intriguing words. She usually taught each class one of the charming German songs that children love.

From 1886 to 1900 she taught the first grade at Morris School. In 1900 she became second grade critic teacher at the Louisville Normal School. It was while teaching here that she became actively interested in the school garden movement. This school, with very small grounds, was located in a congested district. It had a brick yard, surrounded on three sides by a high wooden fence. Under Miss Yunker's leadership bricks were removed for a border about eighteen inches wide around the fence. This border became the official school garden. The members of the garden club were encouraged to have some type of garden at home, and one year the president had a series of tin cans in the window sills in the apartment over his father's store. During these years Miss Yunker studied at the University of Chicago, the University of Louisville, and Peabody College. She received the master's degree from the University of Louisville in 1911, her thesis subject being "The Value of School Gardens." In 1917 she became the first Supervisor of School Gardens of the Louisville Public Schools. She was loaned to the United States government in the summers during the World War to develop community gardens. This work took her over Kentucky, where she developed many friendships.

She was an active member of the School Garden Association of America, and at various times served on committees of this organization; in 1933 she was its vice-president. She attended its meetings and read papers. She was a member of the Wilson, Kentucky, and Tennessee Ornithological Societies and missed only one meeting of the K. O. S. in its numerous fall and spring sessions. She was a very active member of the Outdoor Art League, Garden Chairman of the Louisville Council of Parents and Teachers, member of district and state councils, a member of the Natural History Club, and a tireless church worker. She decorated tables and platforms for many meetings, frequently securing the flowers without cost to the organizations. She transformed drab meeting places to spots of beauty.

Emilie Yunker's work was her life. Her boundless energy carried her from one activity to another. Under her leadership some schools had "paper white" exhibits just before Christmas, when each child took home a paper white narcissus which he had raised. In the spring there was a tulip show, where the schools vied with each other for awards for blossoms. She encouraged everyone to plant iris and roses, frequently ordering the plants for groups of people. Lately she was the chairman of the miniature gardens for the Home Show. She collected seeds of the ginkgo tree and distributed these to many interested individuals not only in Louisville but in many other parts of the United States. She loved all trees, but the ginkgo, the dogwood, and the redbud had a fascination for her. She was constantly taking young trees to those who wanted them.

Miss Yunker had many characteristics that endeared her to her friends. She never said a discourteous thing about anyone. Rather she saw the good qualities. She always had a pleasant, ready reply. She loved to share with those near her new plants, her lunch, bulbs, flowers, or experiences. A study of the Kentucky Ornithological Society bulletins will reveal that Miss Yunker's name is mentioned in almost every one with some contribution about birds. Children enjoyed being with her; she brought cheer to those no longer young.

There was one pet project that she did not live to complete. Upon being told that Roselane Street in Louisville was to be so named because it had been a rose-bordered lane to an old house about 1850, she decided that to make the street true to its name would be lovely. Since Roselane is the street on which Dr. Little's Mission (Grace Presbysterian Church) is located, Miss Yunker thought it would be a fitting tribute to Dr. Little. She had time only to begin the project.

She was blessed with unusual health. She was practically never ill; she never had a headache; in her fifty-six years of service in the schools she was absent only two days because of illness; she died of heart trouble on December 11, 1940, after an illness of less than twenty-four hours.

Miss Mary Browning, Elementary Supervisor of the Louisville Public Schools and a long-time friend of Miss Yunker, paid this beautiful tribute to Miss Yunker, a tribute shared by all her associates:

CROWNS

She always scattered loveliness along;
    A rose, a bulb, a tree, perhaps the while;
To her all work was but a joyous song,
    A pleasant smile.

She loved the soil, the rich, sweet smell of loam,
    Which spoke of beauty, hidden in its power;
She knew that blossoms helped to make a home
    A blessed bower.

The birds' sweet songs were music to her soul;
    She loved them, fed them, called them each by name;
They knew her as a friend to have and hold,
    Always the same.

Her gardens linger ever, things apart;
    She cultivated souls along with them;
A treasured, happy memory of the heart,
    Her diadem!

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AMY DEANE HONORED

The October 27, 1940, issue of the COURIER-JOURNAL contained a feature article called "Louisville Is Home Nest to Clubs of Bird Lovers," which dealt largely with the work of Miss Amy Deane of the K. O. S. and her work at Ellen Churchill Semple School. Five attractive pictures were used also, showing her pupils at work in the schoolroom with bird study or out of doors on hikes. Here are some significant sentences from the article: "You'll not find a more enthusiastic club sponsor than Miss Deane. For five successive years she has organized a club at the school. Now if you don't think Miss Deane's boys and girls know their songsters, you should visit them. In fact, you are invited. Once a week Miss Deane takes six club members to Iroquois Park—where Audubon himself must have wandered in search of strange birds. In Miss Deane's opinion, autumn is the best time for bird study. The migratory birds wing-

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Issued for the Seasons

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ing their way south can be observed; there are fewer leaves to hide them from view, and as the weather turns colder, the birds grow bolder in search of food. As the days go by, the list of the feathered tribe seen by Miss Deane's pupils grows longer. Right now they're on needles and pins to see which one first hears the identifying 'honk, honk' or first sights the black-silhouetted V-formation of geese. Audubon would have liked that."

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BREWSTER'S WARBLER

During the migration season one may at times find many kinds of warblers in Cherokee Park, Louisville. One of the best places in this park is the wooded hillside near the statue of Daniel Boone. It was here that I went to spend a half hour before going to work on the morning of April 29, 1940. At first I saw unusually few birds, and then a warbler flew by. It looked somewhat like a Blue-wing but did not seem quite right. I started searching for it and was fortunate enough to find it. It came within fifty feet of me; through my 8x binoculars I could see it plainly. I then saw that it had a white instead of a black stripe through the eyes, and instead of being solid yellow it had a white throat and belly. It was thus plain that it was a Brewster's Warbler, the only one I have ever seen.

—FLOYD S. CARPENTER.

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CRITTENDEN COUNTY NOTES

The week of September 8-15, 1940, I spent at Marion, Kentucky, Crittenden County. Among the more unusual birds were a flock of 12 Wood Ibises seen on September 11, 14, and 15. They were on a pond near the Cave-In-Rock Ferry and were fond of resting high up in the thickly foliaged trees. In fact, they were so well hidden that at first I did not see them until my walking under the trees caused them to fly out. The noise of their wings when they first started was very loud. On this same pond we saw at one time as many as fifteen Great Blue Herons and even more Egrets. A flock of Tree Swallows was observed here on September 11. Egrets were seen on a number of occasions, as were also a few immature Little Blue Herons. On September 10 a flock of about 150 Blue-winged Teal were watched for about half an hour at very close range. At various times we saw a few Wood Ducks and Pileated Woodpeckers. My companions on these trips were Dr. T. Atchison Frazer and Dr. Perry Frazar, both of Marion.

—FLOYD S. CARPENTER, Louisville.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therefore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Thelma Gentry, Secretary-Treasurer, 516 East Arch Street, Madisonville, Ky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in the Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Teachers College, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Volume XVII **SPRING, 1941** **Number 2**

NINETEENTH ANNUAL SPRING MEETING
LOUISVILLE, APRIL 17, 18, 1941

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2:00 P. M.
Ballroom, Seelbach Hotel

1. "Memorial to Miss Emilie Yunker"—Pupils of I. N. Bloom School, Louisville, Mildred Bott, Teacher, 15 minutes.
2. "Bird Observations around Berea College"—Professor John B. Loefer, Berea College, 20 minutes.
3. "Mother Nature Hides Her Children"—Professor William M. Clay, University of Louisville, (color slides) 30 minutes.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 6:45 A. M.

Field Trip—Indian Hills and River Road; Leonard C. Brecher, Leader. Autos leave at east end of Oak Street car line (at Cherokee Park) promptly at 7:00 A. M.; return at 10:30 A. M.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 12:15 P. M.

K. O. S. Luncheon—Ballroom, Seelbach Hotel. Eighty-five cents. Short business meeting following lunch. Make reservations with Miss Audrey Wright, 1312 Hepburn Avenue, Louisville, Telephone Wabash 3796.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2:30 P. M.
Ballroom, Seelbach Hotel

1. "Our Projected State List"—Professor Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green, 10 minutes.
2. "Rambling with Nature"—Dr. T. Atchison Frazer, Marion, 15 minutes.
3. "Bird Life in Color in Arizona"—Earl G. Wright, Chicago Academy of Sciences, 75 minutes.

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A FEW NOTES FROM HARRISON COUNTY

By MRS. JOHN H. MAYER, Cynthiana

In looking over the bird records that I have kept for a number of years, I re-live many pleasant experiences. It is of some of these that I write in this article.

On October 10, 1932, I saw my first and only Henslow's Sparrow. I was driving on a country road and had stopped my car near a bridge that spanned a small stream. There were tall weeds on either side of the stream, in one of which was perched a bird, a sparrow, that was new to me. It sat quite still as I watched it through my glasses. The sun was at my back and shining directly on the bird, so that the soft reddish, brown, and greenish markings showed to advantage. It reminded me of the colors of a Paisley shawl. I had no idea which one of the sparrows it was, but I wrote

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a detailed description of it in my note book, and when I reached home, I looked it up. I have gone back to that same spot many times, but have never found it there, or anywhere else, for that matter.

In 1933, with a small party of friends, I spent the first week in June in Blue Licks State Park. One morning Mrs. George Kelly and I were walking down a narrow dirt road and had stopped to rest, leaning against an old wire fence, when suddenly from nowhere two Kentucky Warblers appeared and flew around us apparently much disturbed and excited. We knew, of course, that they must have a nest near by, but the ground on the other side of the fence was so thickly covered with bushes and weeds that it would be an almost hopeless task to find it. We sat down on the roadside and watched the birds. They flew a short distance away and soon returned with food in their bills; they seemed torn between the desire to feed the young and fear of giving away the location of the nest. After a long time we saw one drop down quietly to the ground and then heard the calls of the young birds. We waited until the parent had had time to feed them and then found the nest without any trouble. It was just on the other side of the fence under a bush that was overgrown with wild grape vines. It was a bulky affair, but perfectly hidden, and in it were four young birds. The Kentucky Warbler conceals its nest so successfully that I feel the finding of it warrants recording.

The small country hotel where we were staying was quite near the Licking River. Backwater from this river had left a stagnant pond just behind the hotel. We were sure we would be eaten up by mosquitoes, but we were pleasantly surprised. Phoebes, Wood Pewees, Kingbirds, and Crested Flycatchers were abundant in the locality, and at nights Whip-poor-wills took up the hunt for insects where the flycatchers left off. We did not see or hear a mosquito during all the time that we were there, and we were sure we had the birds to thank for that.

It seems strange, but I do not see many birds in Blue Lick State Park, though I go there often, but along the river and country roads and lanes near the park the birding is good.

I am almost afraid to mention the Blue Grosbeak, since I have never been able to prove that I saw it in this locality; however, there is no doubt in my own mind. My first record for this species was May 2, 1932; I saw it every spring for five years thereafter. My last record was made on May 18, 1937. I have not seen one since that date. In the March, 1936, issue of THE WILSON BULLETIN, pp. 53-54, Mrs. Horace P. Cook writes in her "Bird Notes from Anderson, Indiana" of having seen a Blue Grosbeak near that city. She says in her article that she has also seen it in one of the Chicago forest preserves besides two records for Indiana. Doubters might read what W. E. Clyde Tood says of this species in his BIRDS OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA.

For the Dickcissel I have only one record, September 19, 1938, though Major Victor K. Dodge tells me that he sees it often around Lexington.

In Michigan I have seen many Bitterns, but the only record of one in Kentucky that I have made was on May 21, 1939. I was driving on the Two Lick Road when I saw the Least Bittern standing near a little stream that ran by the side of the road. When I stopped the car, the bird "froze," with his neck and bill extended as high as possible. If it had been in its usual habitat, the camouflage might have worked, but there were no reeds near and only a few water weeds, so that it could not have been more conspicuous if it had tried. This seemed rather late in the spring for it to be migrating; probably some accident had delayed it.

On this same afternoon I saw a partially albino Indigo Bunting. It was mottled blue and white and was very unusual looking.

During the cold months I see Sparrow Hawks in our garden now and then. On January 16, 1940, on looking out my window, I saw a Sparrow Hawk on the ground tearing at a bunch of dark feathers. When I hurried to the yard to see what it was eating, the hawk flew away and left its half-eaten prey, a Starling. A few days later I put a part of a loaf of French bread, which had got too stale to eat, out in the garden, thinking the birds might peck at it. To my surprise I saw a Sparrow Hawk, maybe the same one, holding this bread with its claws and tearing it with its bill in the same manner that it had torn at the Starling. It had never occurred to me that a hawk would eat bread. It must have been hungry indeed. I was learning something about Sparrow Hawks.

On May 11, 1940, a man whose farm is one of my favorite haunts telephoned me to say that a strange bird had been shot, and he wondered whether I could tell him what it was. I could not tell much from his description; so I told him I would drive out right away. The dead bird he handed me was a Florida Gallinule. This farm is on the south fork of Licking River. The man on the farm had heard shooting and had found this bird in shallow water near the shore.

I saw a Prairie Horned Lark on June 1, 1940, in Pendleton County, just a short distance from the Harrison County line. It seemed strange to see one at that time of year. I did not know that they nested in Kentucky until I read Mr. Virgil D. King's account of finding and photographing a Prairie Horned Lark's nest in Grant County.

The Brushy Creek Pike is all its name implies, a narrow road with cedar trees, bushes, and weedy fields on either side. A little stream meanders along and crosses the road at one point. It is always a good place to find birds. On December 8, 1940, Mr. Mayer and I were driving slowly along this road when we saw a large flock of Cedar Waxwings. It was a mild day, and some of the birds were bathing in a shallow part of the stream, while others were perched in a tree near by. There were at least 25 in the flock, and they were a beautiful sight. A short distance from the Waxwings we saw some Myrtle Warblers eating the white berries of the poison ivy. We saw Cardinals, Goldfinches, Bluebirds, one Red-bellied Woodpecker, one Song Sparrow, and the usual Titmice and Chickadees, Juncoes, Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers on this drive, and we were out only two hours.

I see more warblers in our own garden than in any other place during the spring and fall migrations. I spend many hours at my bedroom window watching them. A large maple tree attracts many of these little birds. With a trowel I scoop out a little earth under the tree and let a tiny stream of water from the garden hose run into it. The running water attracts the birds, and they seem to prefer bathing in this shallow puddle to using the bird bath. Perhaps the most surprising warbler to be seen in our garden was the Louisiana Water-Thrush. On October 14, 1940, I saw what I first thought to be an Oven-bird in the lower part of the garden, but I soon noticed that it teetered at every step. When I focussed my glasses on the bird, I saw there was no orange patch on the head but, instead, a broad white stripe over the eye. I watched it for about ten minutes before it flew away. Why it should be here out of its usual habitat I do not know.

In the past nine years I have seen in our yard during spring and fall migrations 32 species of warblers, White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows, Baltimore Oriole, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Scarlet Tanager, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Golden and Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Veery, Hermit, Gray-cheeked, and Olive-backed Thrushes, and other migrants, besides a large number of summer residents. The birds that have built in our yard are the following: Cardinal, Dove, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Catbird, Blue Jay, Song Sparrow, and House Wren. The Wood Thrush has built in the neighborhood. They feed, bathe, and sing in our garden but have never built there. Brown Creepers and Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers are seen in our yard from time to time in the winter. The usual visitors to my feeding station in winter are Cardinals, Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers, Carolina Chickadees, Titmice, Mockingbirds, Carolina Wrens, Starlings, Juncoes; one cold winter an immature White-crowned Sparrow joined the others. Not a bad record for a small garden!

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K. O. S. INVITED TO CLIFTY FALLS MAY 10, 11

Major Victor K. Dodge and his fellow-members of the Audubon Society of Kentucky have invited the K. O. S. to share their great week-end trip to Clifty Falls State Park, near Madison, Indiana, on May 10 and 11. Let's go.

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A PRELIMINARY CHECK-LIST OF THE BIRDS OF THE MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK

By GORDON WILSON

Since the summer of 1930, when I made a boat trip down Green River from Munfordville to Brownsville, I have taken 44 field trips in the area now comprised in the Mammoth Cave National Park. These trips ranged from three hours to five days, making a total of 69 days, in all seasons of the year and in all sections of the park.

Only two lists of the birds in the park have been published, both of them admittedly inadequate. In 1933 Mrs. Florence Merriam Bailey published, as a chapter in **Cave Life in Kentucky** (University Press, Notre Dame, Indiana), "Birds of the Cave Region." This list is small and is taken up rather largely with spectacular birds, extinct and living. In **Caverns of Enchantment**, a bulletin issued in 1940 by the Mammoth Cave Operating Committee, appears a list of 154 species of birds made by Claude W. Hibbard while he was park naturalist, from June 1, 1934, to August 20, 1935. Mr. Hibbard told me that several of his species were not to be taken as final identifications.

Since 1915 I have studied birds at Bowling Green, only twenty miles from the southwestern edge of the park, listing in that time 235 species. Though my field trips in the park have yielded only 150 species thus far, I feel certain that ultimately all my Bowling Green records will be verified. The majority of the species yet to be found are water or wading birds, many of which undoubtedly appear annually on the streams in the park. In the following study, issued now as a preliminary list in celebration of the park's being accepted officially by the national government, on July 1, 1941, I have combined my list and that of Mr. Hibbard, starring such forms as I have recorded for Bowling Green but not in the park itself.

*COMMON LOON—**Gavia immer immer**| Very rare migrant.

*HOBOELL'S GREBE—**Colymbus grisegena holboelli.** Very rare migrant.

HORNED GREBE—**Colymbus auritus.** Very rare migrant.

PIED-BILLED GREBE—**Podilymbus podiceps podiceps.** Rare to fairly common migrant. It appears nearly every spring on the little marsh near Sloan's Crossing.

*DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT—**Phalacrocorax auritus auritus.** Very rare migrant.

GREAT BLUE HERON—**Ardea herodias herodias.** Rare migrant and probably a rare summer resident.

*AMERICAN EGRET—**Casmerodius albus egretta.** Rare spring migrant and fairly common late summer visitor.

LITTLE BLUE HERON—**Florida caerulea caerulea.** Rare late-summer visitor.

EASTERN GREEN HERON—**Butorides virescens virescens.** Fairly common summer resident along the streams.

*BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON—**Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli.** Fairly common migrant and rare summer resident.

*YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON—**Nyctanassa violacea.** Rare migrant and probably rare summer resident.

AMERICAN BITTERN—**Botaurus lentiginosus.** Rare migrant.

EASTERN LEAST BITTERN—**Ixobrychus exilis exilis.** Rare migrant and probably rare summer resident.

CANADA GOOSE—**Branta canadensis canadensis..** Migrant, varying from rather common to rare; rare winter resident.

*BLUE GOOSE—**Chen caerulescens.** Rare spring migrant.

MALLARD—**Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos.** Rare to fairly common migrant and winter resident.

BLACK DUCK—**Anas rubripes (Subsp.)** Rare to fairly common migrant. Both the Red-legged Black Duck and the Common Black Duck are to be found.

*GADWALL—**Chaulelasmus streperus.** Rare migrant.

*BALDPATE—**Mareca americana.** Rare to fairly common migrant.

*PINTAIL—**Dafila acuta tzitzihoa.** Rare to common migrant.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL—**Nettion carolinense.** Rare migrant.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL—**Querquedula discors.** Rare to fairly common migrant.

*SHOVELLER—**Spatula clypeata.** Fairly common migrant.

WOOD DUCK—**Aix sponsa.** Summer resident along the river and should thrive under protection.

*REDHEAD—**Nyroca americana.** Rare migrant.

RING-NECKED DUCK—**Nyroca collaris.** Fairly common to common migrant.

*CANVAS-BACK—**Nyroca valisineria.** Rare migrant.

*GREATER SCAUP DUCK—**Nyroca marila.** Very rare migrant.

LESSER SCAUP DUCK—**Nyroca affinis.** Common to abundant migrant.

*AMERICAN GOLDEN-EYE—**Glaucionetta clangula americana.** Rare to fairly common migrant.

*BUFFLE-HEAD—**Charitonetta albeola.** Rare migrant.

*OLD SQUAW—**Clangula hyemalis.** Very rare migrant.

*WHITE-WINGED SCOTER—**Melanitta deglandi.** Very rare migrant.

*SURF SCOTER—**Melanitta perspicillata.** Very rare migrant.

*RUDDY DUCK—**Erismatura jamaicensis rubida.** Rare migrant.

*HOODED MERGANSER—**Lophodytes cucullatus.** Rare migrant.

*AMERICAN MERGANSER—**Mergus merganser merganser.** Rare migrant.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER—**Mergus serrator.** Rare to common migrant.

TURKEY VULTURE—**Cathartes aura septentrionalis.** Common permanent resident, probably nesting in the cliffs along the rivers.

BLACK VULTURE—**Coragyps atratus atratus.** Common permanent resident, usually a little more common in summer than the Turkey Vulture and less common in winter.

*EASTERN GOSHAWK—**Astur atricapillus atricapillus.** Very rare visitor in severe winters.

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK—**Accipiter velox velox.** Rare to fairly common permanent resident.

COOPER'S HAWK—**Accipiter cooperi.** Rare to fairly common permanent resident.

RED-TAILED HAWK—**Buteo borealis borealis.** Fairly common permanent resident, especially in the First Creek area and similar wild places along Green and Nolin Rivers.

NORTHERN RED-SHOULDERED HAWK—**Buteo lineatus lineatus.** Rare permanent resident.

AMERICAN ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK—**Buteo lagopus sancti-johannis.** Rare winter resident.

*GOLDEN EAGLE—**Aquila chrysaetos canadensis.** Very rare visitor.

SOUTHERN BALD EAGLE—**Haliaeetus leucocephalus leucocephalus.** Rare visitor.

MARSH HAWK—**Circus hudsonius.** Fairly common winter resident.

OSPREY—**Pandion haliaetus carolinensis.** Rare migrant.

*DUCK HAWK—**Falco peregrinus anatum.** Rare migrant.

EASTERN PIGEON HAWK—**Falco columbarius columbarius.** Rare migrant.

EASTERN SPARROW HAWK—**Falco sparverius sparverius.** Common resident.

BOB-WHITE—**Colinus virginianus virginianus** and **C. v. texanus.** Both the Eastern and the Texas Bob-White are in the park, as the latter has been introduced. Bob-whites becoming quite plentiful under protection and are found in many areas.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT—**Phasianus colchicus torquatus.** I have found this species in two areas, one on each side of Green River.

WILD TURKEY—**Meleagris gallopavo silvestris.** A few of this species have been reintroduced within recent years, but it is not known whether any yet remain in the park, as they wander widely.

KING RAIL—**Rallus elegans elegans.** Rare migrant and possibly a rare summer resident, as it has been known to breed at Bowling Green.

*VIRGINIA RAIL—**Rallus limicola limicola.** Rare migrant.

*SORA—**Porzana carolina.** Rare migrant.

*PURPLE GALLINULE—**Ionornis martinica.** Rare accidental visitor.

*FLORIDA GALLINULE—**Gallinula chloropus cachinnans.** Rare migrant and possibly a rare summer resident, as it has been known to breed at Bowling Green.

COOT—**Fulica americana.** Rare to common migrant and a very rare summer resident.

*PIPING PLOVER—**Charadrius melodus.** Rare to fairly common migrant.

*SEMIPALMATED PLOVER—**Charadrius semipalmatus.** Rare to fairly common migrant.

KILLDEER—**Oxyechus vociferus vociferus.** Formerly common permanent resident but now quite rare since the fields are growing up.

*GOLDEN PLOVER—**Pluvialis dominica dominica.** Rare spring migrant.

*BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER—**Squatarola squatarola.** Rare migrant.

*RUDDY TURNSTONE—**Arenaria interpres morinella.** Very rare spring migrant.

WOODCOCK—**Philohela minor.** Rare migrant and possibly a rare summer resident, as it has been found nesting at Glasgow.

WILSON'S SNIPE—**Capella delicata.** Rare to common migrant.

*UPLAND PLOVER—**Bartramia longicauda.** Rare to fairly common migrant, found largely in meadows.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER—**Actitis macularia.** Fairly common summer resident along the streams.

EASTERN SOLITARY SANDPIPER—**Tringa solitaria solitaria.** Common migrant.

*WESTERN WILLET—**Cataptrophorus semipalmatus inornatus.** Rare migrant.

*GREATER YELLOW-LEGS—**Totanus melanoleuncus.** Rare to common migrant, especially in spring.

*LESSER YELLOW-LEGS—**Totanus flavipes.** Common migrant.

*PECTORAL SANDPIPER—**Pisobia melanotos.** Rare to common migrant.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER—**Pisobia fuscicollis.** Rare migrant.

*BAIRD'S SANDPIPER—**Pisobia bairdi.** Rare migrant.

LEAST SANDPIPER—**Pisobia minutilla.** Rare to common migrant.

*RED-BACKED SANDPIPER—**Pelidna alpina sakhalina.** Rare migrant.

*DOWITCHER—**Limnodromus griseus** (Subsp). Rare migrant.

*SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER—**Ereunetes pusillus.** Rare to common migrant.

*BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER—**Tryngites subruficollis.** Very rare migrant.

*WILSON'S PHALAROPE—**Steganopus tricolor.** Very rare migrant.

*HERRING GULL—**Larus argentatus smithsonianus.** Rare spring migrant, seen occasionally in winter.

*BONAPARTE'S GULL—**Larus philadelphia.** Very rare migrant.

*RING-BILLED GULL—**Larus delawarensis.** Rare migrant.

*COMMON TERN—**Sterna hirundo hirundo.** Rare migrant.

LEAST TERN—**Sterna antillarum antillarum.** Rare migrant.

*CASPIAN TERN—**Hydroprogne caspia imperator.** Rare migrant.

*BLACK TERN—**Chlidonias nigra surinamensis.** Rare migrant.

ROCK DOVE—**Columba livia.** Fairly common around the hotels and the few houses left in the park area.

EASTERN MOURNING DOVE—**Zenaidura macroura carolinensis.** Common permanent resident.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO—**Coccyzus americanus americanus.** Common summer resident.

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO—**Coccyzus erythropthalmus.** Common migrant and possibly summer resident.

BARN OWL—**Tyto alba pratincola.** Rare permanent resident.

EASTERN SCREECH OWL—**Otus asio naevius.** Common permanent resident.

GREAT HORNED OWL—**Bubo virginianus virginianus.** Fairly common permanent resident.

NORTHERN BARRED OWL—**Strix varia varia.** Common permanent resident.

LONG-EARED OWL—**Asio wilsonianus.** Rare winter resident.

SHORT-EARED OWL—**Asio flammeus flammeus.** Rare winter resident.

CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW—**Antrostomus carolinensis.** Common summer resident.

EASTERN WHIP-POOR-WILL—**Antrostomus vociferus vociferus.** Common summer resident.

EASTERN NIGHTHAWK—**Chordeiles minor minor.** Common summer resident, abundant in migrations.

CHIMNEY SWIFT—**Chaetura pelagica.** Common summer resident, abundant in migrations.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD—**Archilochus colubris.** Common summer resident.

EASTERN BELTED KINGFISHER—**Megaceryle alcyon alcyon.** Rare permanent resident along the streams.

NORTHERN FLICKER—**Colaptes auratus luteus.** Common permanent resident.

SOUTHERN PILEATED WOODPECKER—**Ceophloeus pileatus pileatus.** Fairly common permanent resident, probably the most distinctive bird of the park.

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER—**Centaurus carolinus.** Common permanent resident.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER—**Melanerpes erythrocephalus.** Common summer resident, rare in winter.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER—**Sphyrapicus varius varius.** Fairly common winter resident.

EASTERN HAIRY WOODPECKER—**Dryobates villosus villosus.** Rare permanent resident, usually appearing about one-fiftieth as plentiful as the Downy.

SOUTHERN DOWNY WOODPECKER—**Dryobates pubescens pubescens.** Common permanent resident.

RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER—**Dryobates borealis.** Recorded by Claude W. Hibbard in Eaton Valley pine forest but not seen since then. Probably a permanent resident.

EASTERN KINGBIRD—**Tyrannus tyrannus.** Common summer resident.

NORTHERN CRESTED FLYCATCHER—**Myiarchus crinitus boreus.** Common summer resident.

EASTERN PHOEBE—**Sayornis phoebe**—Common summer resident; rare winter resident.

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER—**Empidonax virescens.** Common summer resident along the streams.

LEAST FLYCATCHER—**Empidonax minimus.** Rare migrant.

EASTERN WOOD PEWEE—**Myiochanes virens.** Common summer resident.

*OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER—**Nuttallornis mesoleucus.** Rare migrant.

PRAIRIE HORNED LARK—**Otocoris alpestris praticola.** Common to abundant winter resident, rare summer resident.

*TREE SWALLOW—**Iridiprocne bicolor.** Rare to fairly common migrant.

BANK SWALLOW—**Riparia riparia riparia.** Fairly common migrant.

ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW—**Stelgidopteryx ruficollis serripennis.** Common summer resident along the streams.

BARN SWALLOW—**Hirundo erythrogaster.** Formerly a common summer resident but becoming less common since the farms are growing up.

PURPLE MARTIN—**Progne subis subis.** Common summer resident.

NORTHERN CLIFF SWALLOW—**Petrochelidon albifrons albifrons.** Common migrant and rare summer resident.

NORTHERN BLUE JAY—**Cyanocitta cristata cristata.** Common permanent resident.

EASTERN CROW—**Corvus brachyrhynchos brachyrhynchos.** Common in summer, abundant in winter.

CAROLINA CHICKADEE—**Penthestes carolinensis carolinensis.** Common permanent resident.

TUFTED TITMOUSE—**Baeolophus bicolor.** Common permanent resident.

NORTHERN WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH—**Sitta carolinensis carolinensis.** Common permanent resident.

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH—**Sitta canadensis.** Rare migrant and very rare winter resident.

BROWN CREEPER—**Certhia familiaris americana.** Fairly common winter resident.

EASTERN HOUSE WREN—**Troglodytes aedon aedon.** Very rare migrant.

EASTERN WINTER WREN—**Nannus hiemalis hiemalis.** Fairly common winter resident.

BEWICK'S WREN—**Thryomanes bewicki bewicki**—Fairly common permanent resident.

CAROLINA WREN—**Thryothorus ludovicianus ludovicianus.** Common permanent resident, one of the distinct songsters of the park.

PRAIRIE MARSH WREN—**Telmatodytes palustris dissaeptus.** Rare migrant.

EASTERN MOCKINGBIRD—**Mimus polyglottos polyglottos.** Common permanent resident.

CATBIRD—**Dumetella carolinensis.** Common summer resident.

BROWN THRASHER—**Toxostoma rufum.** Common summer resident, very rare winter resident.

EASTERN ROBIN—**Turdus migratorius migratorius.** Formerly common summer resident and rare winter resident; much less common since the fields are growing up.

WOOD THRUSH—**Hylocichla mustelina.** Common summer resident, probably the best-loved songster of the park.

EASTERN HERMIT THRUSH—**Hylocichla guttata faxoni.** Common winter resident.

OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH—**Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni.** Common migrant.

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH—**Hylocichla minima aliciae.** Common migrant.

VEERY—**Hylocichla fuscescens fucescens.** Rare migrant.

EASTERN BLUEBIRD—**Sialia sialis sialis.** Common permanent resident.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER—**Polioptila caerulea caerulea.** Common summer resident.

EASTERN GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET—**Regulus satrapa satrapa.** Fairly common to common winter resident.

EASTERN RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET—**Corthylio calendula calendula.** Common migrant and very rare winter resident.

*AMERICAN PIPIT—**Anthus spinoletta rubescens.** Rare migrant.

CEDAR WAXWING—**Bombycilla cedrorum.** Erratic winter resident, sometimes very plentiful and at others very scarce. It is also probably a very rare summer resident.

MIGRANT SHRIKE—**Lanius ludovicianus migrans.** Rare permanent president, apparently growing scarcer since the area has been acquired for the park.

STARLING—**Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris.** Fairly common in the occupied areas, practically unknown elsewhere.

WHITE-EYED VIREO—**Vireo griseus griseus.** Common summer resident.

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO—**Vireo flavifrons.** Common summer resident.

BLUE-HEADED VIREO—**Vireo solitarius solitarius.** Rare migrant.

RED-EYED VIREO—**Vireo olivaceus.** Common summer resident.

EASTERN WARBLING VIREO—**Vireo gilvus gilvus.** Rare summer resident.

BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER—**Mniotilta varia.** Common summer resident.

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER—**Protonotaria citrea.** Common summer resident along the streams.

WORM-EATING WARBLER—**Helmitheros vermivorus.** Rare to fairly common summer resident.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER—**Vermivora chrysoptera.** Rare migrant and possibly rare summer resident.

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER—**Vermivora pinus.** Fairly common summer resident.

TENNESSEE WARBLER—**Vermivora peregrina.** Common to abundant migrant.

NASHVILLE WARBLER—**Vermivora ruficapilla ruficapilla.** Fairly common migrant.

NORTHERN PARULA WARBLER—**Compsothlypis americana pusilla.** Rare summer resident.

EASTERN YELLOW WARBLER—**Dendroica aestiva aestiva.** Common summer resident.

MAGNOLIA WARBLER—**Dendroica magnolia.** Common migrant.

BLACK THROATED BLUE WARBLER—**Dendroica caerulescens caerulescens.** Very rare migrant.

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER—**Dendroica virens virens.** Common migrant.

MYRTLE WARBLER—**Dendroica coronata.** Common winter resident, abundant in migrations.

CERULEAN WARBLER—**Dendroica cerulea.** Rare summer resident.

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER—**Dendroica fusca.** Common migrant.

SYCAMORE WARBLER—**Dendroica dominica albilora.** Common summer resident along the streams.

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER—**Dendroica pensylvanica.** Fairly common migrant.

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER—**Dendroica castanea.** Fairly common migrant.

BLACK-POLL WARBLER—**Dendroica striata.** Common migrant.

NORTHERN PINE WARBLER—**Dendroica pinus pinus.** Fairly common migrant.

NORTHERN PRAIRIE WARBLER—**Dendorica discolor discolor.** Common summer resident.

WESTERN PALM WARBLER—**Dendroica palmarum palmarum.** Common to abundant migrant.

YELLOW PALM WARBLER—**Dendroica palmarum hypochrysea.** Rare migrant and possibly a rare winter resident.

OVEN-BIRD—**Seiurus aurocapillus.** Common summer resident.

NORTHERN WATER-THRUSH—**Seiurus noveboracensis noveboracensis.** Rare migrant.

LOUISIANA WATER-THRUSH—**Seiurus motacilla.** Common summer resident.

KENTUCKY WARBLER—**Oporornis formosus.** Common summer resident.

*CONNECTICUT WARBLER—**Oporornis agillis.** Very rare migrant.

MOURNING WARBLER—**Oporornis philadelphia.** Very rare migrant.

MARYLAND YELLOW-THROAT—**Geothlypis trichas trichas.** Common summer resident.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT—**Icteria virens virens.** Common summer resident.

HOODED WARBLER—**Wilsonia citrina.** Common summer resident.

WILSON'S WARBLER—**Wilsonia pusilla pusilla.** Rare migrant.

CANADA WARBLER—**Wilsonia canadensis.** Rare migrant.

AMERICAN REDSTART—**Setophaga ruticilla.** Common summer resident.

ENGLISH SPARROW—**Passer domesticus domesticus.** Common around the occupied areas but practically unknown elsewhere.

BOBOLINK—**Dolichonyx oryzivorus.** Formerly a common migrant but practically never seen since the fields have ceased to be in cultivation.

EASTERN MEADOWLARK—**Sturnella magna magna.** Common permanent resident.

EASTERN RED-WING—**Agelaius phoeniceus phoeniceus.** Fairly common summer resident, found rarely in winter.

ORCHARD ORIOLE—**Icterius spurius.** Common summer resident.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE—**Icterus galbula.** Common summer resident.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD—**Euphagus carolinus.** Fairly common migrant and rare winter resident.

BRONZED GRACKLE—**Quiscalus quiscala aeneus.** Abundant in migrations, rare in summer, rare in winter.

EASTERN COWBIRD—**Molothrus ater ater.** Fairly common summer resident and rare winter resident.

SCARLET TANAGER—**Piranga erythromelas.** Common summer resident, one of the distinctive birds of the park.

SUMMER TANAGER—**Piranga rubra rubra.** Common summer resident.

EASTERN CARDINAL—**Richmondena cardinalis cardinalis.** Common to abundant permanent resident.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK—**Hedymeles ludovicianus.** Fairly common migrant.

EASTERN BLUE GROSBEAK—**Guiraca caerulea caerulea.** Rare migrant and possibly a very rare summer resident.

INDIGO BUNTING—**Passerina cyanea.** Common summer resident.

DICKCISSEL—**Spiza americana.** Formerly common summer resident; rare since meadows have ceased to be.

EASTERN PURPLE FINCH—**Carpodacus purpureus purpureus.** Common winter resident.

EASTERN GOLDFINCH—**Spinus tristis tristis.** Common permanent resident.

*RED CROSSBILL—**Loxia curvirostra pusilla.** Very rare winter resident.

RED-EYED TOWHEE—**Pipilo erythrophthalmus erythrophthalmus.** Common permanent resident.

EASTERN SAVANNAH SPARROW—**Passerculus sandwichensis savanna.** Rare to fairly common winter resident.

EASTERN GRASSHOPPER SPARROW—**Ammodramus savannarum australis.** Common summer resident in the old fields.

*WESTERN HENSLOW'S SPARROW—**Passerherbulus henslowi henslowi.** Rare spring migrant.

EASTERN VESPER SPARROW—**Pooecetes gramineus gramineus.** Fairly common migrant, very rare winter resident.

*EASTERN LARK SPARROW—**Chondestes grammacus grammacus.** Fairly common migrant and possibly a rare summer resident.

BACHMAN'S SPARROW—**Aimophila aestivalis bachmani.** Fairly common summer resident in old fields.

SLATE-COLORED JUNCO—**Junco hyemalis hyemalis.** Common to abundant winter resident in the old fields.

EASTERN TREE SPARROW—**Spizella arborea arborea.** Fairly common to common winter resident.

EASTERN CHIPPING SPARROW—**Spizella passerina passerina.** Common summer resident.

EASTERN FIELD SPARROW—**Spizella pusilla pusilla.** Common summer resident and fairly common winter resident.

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW—**Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys.** Common winter resident.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW—**Zonotrichia albicollis.** Common winter resident.

EASTERN FOX SPARROW—**Passerella iliaca iliaca.** Fairly common winter resident.

*LINCOLN'S SPARROW—**Melospiza lincolni lincolni** Fairly common winter resident.

SWAMP SPARROW—**Melospiza georgiana.** Fairly common winter resident in swampy areas.

EASTERN SONG SPARROW—**Melospiza melodia melodia.** Common winter resident.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therefore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Thelma Gentry, Secretary-Treasurer, 516 East Arch Street, Madisonville, Ky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in the Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Teachers College, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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No. 3

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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Volume XVII SUMMER, 1941 Number 3

K. O. S. OUTING AT MAMMOTH CAVE

Since the dry weather of the winter and early spring kept Mr. Wilson's McElroy Lake from forming this year, our K. O. S. outing was held again at Mammoth Cave. The first party arrived late on the afternoon of April 4; the last party left just before dark on April 6. We made numerous trips on these days: to Sloan's Crossing and its small lake, to the old ferry and the new one, to Green Lake near the cave, to the pine woods in Eaton Valley, to the Hickory Cabin country, and to Cedar Sink. Though the weather was cold and rainy until the last day, we did rather well on our finds: 71 species, as against only 57 at the same week-end in 1940: American Bittern, Mallard, Black Duck, Ring-necked Duck, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Eastern Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Killdeer, Eastern Mourning Dove, Eastern Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, Northern Barred Owl, Eastern Belted Kingfisher, Northern Flicker, Southern Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Eastern Hairy Woodpecker, Southern Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Prairie Horned Lark, Purple Martin, Northern Blue Jay, Eastern Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Northern White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Eastern Winter Wren, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Eastern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Eastern Robin, Wood Thrush, Eastern Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Eastern Golden-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, Black and White Warbler, Northern Parula Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Sycamore Warbler, Louisiana Water-thrush, English Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Eastern Red-wing, Rusty Blackbird, Bronzed Grackle, Eastern Cowbird, Eastern Cardinal, Eastern Purple Finch, Eastern Goldfinch, Red-eyed Towhee, Eastern Savannah Sparrow, Eastern Vesper Sparrow, Slate-colored Junco, Eastern Tree Sparrow (a late record; seen several times), Eastern Chipping Sparrow, Eastern Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Eastern Fox Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Eastern Song Sparrow.

Superintendent R. Taylor Hoskins assigned to us for the duration of the meeting Ranger Fred Binnewies, who showed us around the places we did not know so well. The following people participated in the two-day meetings: State Ornithologist Burt Monroe, Anchorage; Dr. Harvey Lovell, Dr. P. A. Davies, Miss Evelyn J. Schneider, University of Louisville; Mrs. Dorothy Madden Hobson, Indianapolis; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thacher, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard

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Brecher, James Boswell Young, Misses Amy Deane, Helen Peil, Dorothy Peil, Ruth Brecher, Lena Ruth Towles, Mabel Slack, Louisville; Mr. and Mrs. F. Everett Frei, Mr. and Mrs. Cal Rogers, Miss Betty Braden, Glasgow; Dr. Cynthia Counce, Hopkinsville; Mrs. Marjorie K. Batts, Clinton; Dr. T. Atchison Frazer, Mr. Oakley Shelby, Marion; Miss Katherine Laverty, Princeton; and Professor Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green.

A similar outing was planned for 1942.

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BIRD HOUSES

By EDMUND J. SAWYER

The third edition of BIRD HOUSES, by Edmund J. Sawyer, was issued in December, 1940, and is now available for those desiring a compact, authoritative treatise on this fascinating subject. The text has been entirely rewritten, four illustrations are added, and there are directions for attracting birds in both the eastern and western regions of the United States. There is good material on the construction of bird baths and food stations and a special section devoted to discouraging undesired tenants. This excellent bulletin can be obtained from Cranbook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, for the modest sum of twenty cents.

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SPRING MEETING OF K. O. S.

In addition to the program of our spring meeting, published in our last issue, Miss Gentry, our Secretary-Treasurer sends the following report of the business meeting:

Miss Evelyn Schneider presided at the brief business meeting held at the K. O. S. luncheon on Friday, April 18, 1941, in the Gold Room of the Seelbach Hotel. Mrs. Alice Moore reported on the Winter Bird Feeding Project sponsored by the K. O. S. and W. P. A. Five hundred bird posters have been sent out over the state; leaflets were sent to each W. P. A. Recreation Center and were there posted on bulletin boards; 25,000 bookmarks were placed in libararies throughout the state. A series of radio programs were worked out by the K. O. S. Mixed grain to the amount of 3,500 pounds are stored now for winter feeding. Bird feeding stations will be established in all state parks in Kentucky. On April 1, 1941, Bird Calendars were placed in each Recreation Center, where records of the first appearance of birds will be made.

Miss Schneider appointed the following committee on the Bird Feeding Program: Leonard Brecher, Chairman, Dr. John Loefer, Kent Previette, Forrest Durand, Virgil D. King, and Mrs. Alice Moore. Announcements were made that lists of bibliographies and programs to be used by bird clubs will be mailed to members.

An announcement as to complete files of the WARBLER was made and will be found elsewhere in this issue.

The president expressed appreciation for the cooperation of the K. E. A. in holding our spring meeting, for the services of Miss Audrey Wright for arranging our luncheon, and for Mrs. Alice Moore's furnishing the flowers for the table.

Discussions of a place for the fall meeting included suggestions of Diamond Springs, Sulphur Well, and "Between the Rivers." Dr. Wilson gave brief descriptions of the areas under consideration. It was decided to leave the selection of the place to the discretion of the president and a group of people who could visit the places and select the best one.

Mr. Leonard Brecher gave official notice to the K. O. S. that Mr. Steve Wakefield, Director of Fish and Game, of the Kentucky Wild Life Service, had appointed as State Ornithologist our former president, Burt L. Monroe. The members voiced hearty approval of the choice of such an able ornithologist.

The treasurer's report was as follows:

RECEIPTS

Balance brought forward	$55.99
Money collected from memberships	40.75
Dividend, Jefferson Savings	5.25
Sale of WARBLERS	3.50
Total receipts	$105.49

DISBURSEMENTS

To Selby E. Smith for printing WARBLERS—	
Fall, 1940 Issue	$15.75
Winter, 1941 Issue and Covers	32.75
Spring, 1941 Issue	15.74
TOTAL	$64.24
Bags for Winter Feeding Program	$ 4.48
Membership in Kentucky Conservation Council	2.00
Total Disbursements	70.72
Balance on hand April 18, 1941	$34.77

An invitation was extended to the K. O. S. members to join in an outing with the Lexington Audubon Society to Clifty Falls State Park, Indiana, on May 10 and 11, 1941.

Mr. Earl G. Wright, who later addressed the open meeting, presented briefly the feeding program being carried out in Illinois.

With a suggestion by Dr. Harvey Lovell that all members stand near the door to greet visitors at our afternoon meeting and an introduction of all guests the meeting was brought to a close.

Fifteen of the members went on the annual early-morning hike on Friday, April 18, from 7:15 to 10:15 A. M. Mr. Leonard Brecher tabulated their finds as follows: Double-crested Cormorant, 1; Black-crowned Night Heron, 1; Mallard, 2; Black Duck, 4; Ring-necked Duck, 1; Lesser Scaup, 46; Hooded Merganser, 2; Turkey Vulture, 4; Coot, 1; Killdeer, 1; Mourning Dove, 9; Chimney Swift, 8; Belted Kingfisher, 3; Flicker, 4; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Kingbird, 1; Crested Flycatcher, 1; Rough-winged Swallow, 3; Blue Jay, 6; Crow, 8; Carolina Chickadee, 6; Tufted Titmouse, 5; House Wren, 6; Carolina Wren, 4; Mockingbird, 4; Catbird, 1; Brown Thrasher, 5; Robin, 19; Wood Thrush, 7; Bluebird, 3; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 4; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 1; Cedar Waxwing, 22; Starling, 37; Warbling Vireo, 5; Prothonotary Warbler, 1; Yellow Warbler, 23; Yellow-throat, 5; Yellow-breasted Chat, 1; English Sparrow, 4; Meadowlark, 28; Red-winged Blackbird, 17; Baltimore Oriole, 1; Bronzed Grackle, 31; Cowbird, 4; Cardinal, 14; Goldfinch, 7; Red-eyed Towhee, 10; Chipping Sparrow, 5; Field Sparrow, 8; White-crowned Sparrow, 1; White-throated Sparrow, 5; Song Sparrow, 17. Total, 54 species, 420 individuals. The area covered was Indian Hills and along the River Road. The lack of warblers was due to the concentration on water bird habitats, since most of the party wished to see water species. Lack of shore birds was due, doubtless, to the exceedingly dry conditions in this area.

—THELMA GENTRY, Secretary-Treasurer.

NOTES ON THE NOMENCLATURAL HISTORY OF THE RED-EYED TOWHEE

By ROGER W. BARBOUR, Morehead Teachers College

Some time ago I had occasion to go through the literature pertaining to the Red-eyed Towhee, **Pipilo erythrophthalmus erypthrophthalmus Linnaeus.** In so doing, I unearthed some interesting features of the nomenclatural history of the bird which may be of interest to others. It will be obvious, even to the layman, that a complete nomenclatural history is not herein presented, but it is believed that the more salient features are recorded.

One of the first written accounts of the Towhee is that of Topsell in his FOWLES OF HEAUEN, as reported by Christy in AUK. FOWLES OF HEAUEN was written, according to Christy, "before the end of 1614, and perhaps a year or two earlier than that." Topsell did not assign a binomial to the bird but referred to it by its Indian name, "Chuwheeo." He described the Towhee as "the great virginia pye, having an ashe-coloured beake, but all the body, head, and necke blacke, except the belly and legges, wch are a compound of white and chessnut. The tayle is very long, like our common english pyes and haith underneath two white featheres, wch because it is proper to that country, I have expressed by that proper name whereby the people there call it."

One of the next accounts of the Towhee is that of Mark Catesby in his NATURAL HISTORY OF THE CAROLINAS. He gave a Latin name, "Passer niger, **Oculis rubris,**" to the bird and described it rather thoroughly. He published an illustration of the Towhee which is, according to present standards, a very crude work. However, it is a recognizable likeness and is, I believe, the first published illustration of the bird.

Linnaeus in his monumental SYSTEMA NATURAE was the first to ascribe a binomial to the Towhee. He named it **Fringilla erythrophthalma**, basing his description on Catesby's account of "Passer niger, Oculis rubris."

Thirty years later Gmelin in a later edition of SYSTEMA NATURAE placed the genus **Fringilla** in the synonomy of the genus **Emberiza** and added a few data to Linnaeus' account.

In 1824 Vieillot described the genus **Pipilo** and placed the genus **Emberiza** in its synonomy.

In 1874 Eliot Coues described the White-eyed Towhee, **Pipilo erythrophthalmus** alleni, causing the red-eyed form to be known as **Pipilo e. erythrophthalmus**, the name which it still bears.

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MR. PERKINS DEAD

Our K. O. S. members will be grieved to learn that Mr. Samuel E. Perkins, III, of Indianapolis, Indiana, long a member of our organization and a famous naturalist, died on January 31, 1941. He had a breakdown in health some three years ago and had given up his law practice then, but he kept up his active interest in ornithology and had hoped to join us again this year at Mammoth Cave. His numerous studies of birds revolved around two paradises of wild life in Indiana: Hovey Lake, near the Ohio River, in Posey County; and Lake Maxinkuckee, at Culver. Those who knew Mr. Perkins will miss his scholary studies and his fine sense of humor. Ornithology has never attracted a more lovable devotee.

VISION IN BIRDS

By DR. ARCH E. COLE, University of Louisville School of Medicine

Light perception organs are the possession of practically all forms of animal life. They vary from the simple pigment spots of the protoza through the vesicle structures of the jellyfish and starfish (by which changes in the intensity of light are perceived) to the true image-forming eye which is well developed in the higher invertebrates and the vertebrates. The eyes of insects, molluscs, and vertebrates differ markedly in their development and structure. Each type is a complex organ designed to focus rays of light, by means of a lens, upon a retina in which the light-sensitive end-organs are located. The vertebrate eye is perhaps the most complicated and the most efficient. It reaches its highest development in the birds, and of these in the birds of prey.

The hawk or eagle, soaring hundreds of feet above the ground, suddenly swoops down and captures a rabbit, ground squirrel, or bird. At a similar distance man would have to use a field glass to distinguish it. Imagine being able to see a mouse running around in the grass even a block away. The swift, travelling at an estimated speed of 30 to 80 miles an hour, suddenly swerves to catch a small gnat, little larger than a pinhead. A man standing still would have difficulty in seeing it even at close range. Sparrow Hawks can see small beetles at 200 feet. The acuity of the bird's eye is said to be about one hundred times that of man.

Among the special senses vision is, without doubt, the most important for birds. Taste is very poorly developed. Birds will, without hesitation, eat their normal food even after it has been soaked in a bitter extract, such as aloes. Smell is also very rudimentary, being best developed in the lower birds. Apteryx, that primitive New Zealand flightless bird, is a night feeder. It eats grubs and worms, which it catches by rooting with its long beak in soft soil. Its nostrils are at the end of the beak. Apteryx has the best-developed olfactory organs of any of the birds. In most birds the nasal cavity, and the tongue also, is horny and dry and ill suited for the location of chemoreceptors, such as olfactory and taste buds. The vulture, which has the reputation of possessing a keen sense of smell in order to locate its decomposing food, is probably enjoying an unjustified distinction. It has been shown by scientifically controlled experiment that vultures do not find very ripe carrion if it is covered so that it cannot be seen. Popular books, however, have many stories which do not bear out this contention.

Birds possess a fairly acute sense of hearing. However, the auditory apparatus is not so well developed and is functionally much inferior to that of most animals.

Many observations and experiments illustrate the importance of vision in the behavior of birds. Birds will respond to their reflection in mirrors, before which they will strut or fight. Male canaries show signs of sexual excitement when shown a toy canary of pasteboard. Vultures tore up a canvas painting of a dead sheep but did not disturb a real dead one which had a piece of canvas thrown over it. Lashley showed that terns and other birds that nest in colonies found their own nests on the basis of visual cues such as a stone, a stick, or a clump of grass. If these cues were removed, the bird was lost, and, unlike Daniel Boone, who never was lost but was once a little perplexed for three days, they gave every indication of realizing the fact.

Vision is important in the determination of normal posture and balance. If a bird is blindfolded, the bird's head will sink until it touches the ground. Sometimes the bird even lies down on its side.

In most, if not all birds, vision is the chief modality in feeding. Hens and pigeons starve to death in the dark while surrounded by an abundance of food.

Birds are capable of responding to slight variations in intensity of light. Lashley reported that Bantam cocks discriminated accurately with differences in intensity of 1.8 and 18.0 candle-meters. The threshold he believed to be about 1 to 3 (6 and 18 candle meters). The threshold in chicks and pigeons is about the same as that in man. Experimentally both birds stopped feeding when the light intensity was decreased to the point where an observer no longer could distinguish the individual grains of food. As the intensity was increased, both the pigeon and the chicken began to feed again at the same time that the observer could again distinguish grain. If both the observer and the birds were dark-adapted (kept in a dark room for some time), the observer saw the kernels and the birds began feeding at a much lower light intensity than before.

Experimentally chickens distinguish between triangles and circles. If the chicks were offered corn cut in the two shapes but with the circles glued down, the birds soon became conditioned to the extent that they ate only the triangles, even though the circles were free. Crows can distinguish circles, triangles, squares, and hexagons.

In size-discrimination chickens distinguish between circles 5cm. and 8cm. in diameter. Crows are much more sensitive in this respect. They have greater visual acuity and can distinguish a 5cm, circle from one 4.5 cm. in diameter.

Birds stand high in the ability to distinguish a moving object. Normal prey put into large cages with protective color background, with such birds as hawks, owls, chickens, crows, and kingbirds, was taken much more often if the prey moved than if it remained motionless. Birds of prey took their food almost always when it moved. This does not mean, however, that they did not see it when it was quiet. It may mean that such birds preferred animals that were clearly alive. One may often observe a hen chase a flying grasshopper and then fail to find it when it remains motionless.

These experimental and observational results clearly indicate the importance of vision in the behavior of birds. Its importance is also indicated by the large size of the bony orbit of the birds' skulls, and by the relatively large size of the eyeballs.

In birds the bony orbits occupy about one-third of the whole head, one-half in the case of the Woodcock. The size of the orbits restricts the brain to the posterior part of the head. The orbits are separated by a thin interorbital septum, which greatly reduces the nasal cavities.

The eyeball itself is extremely large, being in the swallows about five per cent of the total weight. The eyeball of the ostrich is twice as large as that of a horse, the two being the largest eyes among terrestrial animals. The eye of the sparrow is nearly one-third the diameter of that of man, although a man is twelve hundred times as large. The large size of the eye of birds is correlated with a relatively greater development of those parts of the brain that control light perception.

Large eyes furnish large, well-developed images and are found in animals that move the head and eyes rapidly and that require instantaneous vision. Birds certainly fall in this grouping. Unlike those of man, the eyes of birds (except owls) are placed laterally in the head. The axes of the eyes are not parallel, and there is little overlapping of the visual fields. They possess, for the most part, monocular vision or, at the best, incomplete binocular vision. In man, where both eyes look forward, light from one object is registered in homologous parts of both eyes. The optic fibers from the corresponding parts of both eyes go to the same side of the brain, being crossed from one side and uncrossed from the other. The images from the two eyes are thus superimposed in the brain, giving stereoscopic vision, with depth of field and clear form and size perception. In birds the axes of the laterally placed eyes are not parallel; there are very little binocular vision, no superimposing of images, and practically no uncrossed optic fibers. What the average bird lacks in depth of field he gains in range of vision. This is the usual condition in animals with a poor defense. We can see but little except that which is before us. The bird sees in front, at the side, and much that is behind it. The bird really sees two fields at once, one with each eye. When necessary, it can suppress one field and concentrate on the other: witness the old hen cocking her head to view upward for an approaching hawk. We do the same thing when we look through a microscope or sight a gun, with both eyes open. We suppress the image formed by one eye and focus our attention on the other.

Animals with monocular vision depend greatly on movement. We do also in our monocular retinal fields, that is, at the periphery of our field of vision, or those parts of our visual field which are not common to both eyes. If one holds his hands out laterally at the level of the eyes so that each hand is out of the binocular field, but still in the monocular field of each eye, the fingers are seen indistinctly, but movement of the fingers can be clearly detected. Birds increase their perception of sationary objects by moving their heads and bodies, thus bringing in the light from such objects from many angles and focussng the rays on the macular areas of clearest vision. You have all noticed this behavior in the Brown Creeper as it moves over a tree trunk in search of hibernating insects, eggs, or cocoons. The long, movable neck and the single occipital condyle (the universal joint where the skull meets the vertebral column) gives to birds great freedom of movement of the head. Birds with binocular vision are not so dependent on head movements. In the early evening you have often noticed the owl sitting quietly watching the ground for the movements of a meadow mouse.

Birds have true eyelids, as do mammals. They are movable but rarely close except when the birds are sleeping. The edges are fleshy and irregular, and even when closed, they do not meet at all points. The lids of many birds are provided with rudimentary feathers which act as eyelashes. The third eyelid, or nictitating membrane, so rudimentary in man, is well-developed in birds. Attached to the medial angle of the eye, it can be drawn across the surface of the eyeball, toward the lateral side, to cover the whole anterior surface. It is the lid of the most frequent usage, serving as a protection against foreign particles, against air pressure in flight, against water in diving, against sunlight (owls in the daytime keep their third eyelids closed), and serves as a sweep to clear away materials which have settled on the cornea. The front of the eyeball is lubricated by secretions from the lachrymal gland and from Harder's gland, but the secretion is scanty, and its flow is not the same as in man; so the nictitating membrane serves as a mop to spread the lachrymal fluid over the cornea. The pyramidalis muscle, which controls the third eyelid, is very interesting in its action. It is a small, skeletal muscle under voluntary control and is located on the back of the eyeball. Its very long, slender tendon passes through a fibrous pulley and then winds around the lower border of the eyeball and is attached to the lateral edge of the nictitating membrane. The lateral pull which it exerts on the membrane is thus in quite a different plane from that in which the muscle lies.

The extrinsic muscles of the bird's eye are about the same as those in man. Six small muscles extend from the bony orbit to the eyeball in such a way that the eye may be rotated in its socket. In binocular vision the two eyeballs are rotated synchronously, but this does not necessarily occur in birds with monocular vision.

The structure of the bird's eyeball is in general the same as that of man, but it differs in essential details. Both are very complicated, for each is a delicately controlled mechanism, capable of rapidly shifting from a sharp focus of parallel rays of light from far objects to a sharp focus of divergent rays from close objects. This shift is called accomodation to distance and is accomplished by the action of certain muscles within the eyeball itself. The muscles are used to focus on close objects. We are conscious of this muscle action when our eyes become fatigued after prolonged near vision. In the human eye accomodation is produced by the contraction of the ciliary muscle, which allows the lens to become more spherical. The greater convexity of the lens bends the diverging light rays from a near object and brings them to a focus on the retina. Parallel rays from a distant object need not be bent so much if they are to be focussed on the retina; so the muscle relaxes, and the lens becomes more flattened or less convex. Accomodation of this sort is similar to changing the lens on a camera when one uses a more convex lens for near objects and a less convex lens for a distant landscape.

Birds have the same type of accomodation mechanism, but in addition they possess a circular striated muscle which encircles the eyeball. When this muscle contracts, the eyeball is elongated and made tubular. The distance between the retina and the lens is increased. This is similar to drawing out the bellows in a camera, in taking a close-up. By this double mechanism the bird can really change its eye from a telescope into a microscope. The presence of the faster-acting striated muscle in the bird's eye provides for accomodation which is more rapid than that in man.

Nocturnal birds have dark-adapted eyes. The rods and cones of the retina have a layer of pigment about them so arranged that all of the light entering the eye is utilized. The eyes of such birds are large, more tubular than those of day birds; the cornea is more conical, and the pupil is capable of great dilation to admit all the light possible. Such eyes are adapted for near vision. Contrary to the usual conception, owls can see very well in the daytime, but they can see better at dusk and, of course, not at all in complete darkness. The fallacy about owls not being able to see in the daytime is due, of course, to the usual observation that these birds are not often seen in bright sunlight. This is probably due to the fact that they are resting from their nocturnal labors and are hiding from the attacks of day birds, which apparently take great delight in worrying them.

The fact that most birds are colored, many of them brilliantly, indicates an appreciation of color. Color vision is supposedly resident in the cones. Night birds have fewer cones; they are preponderant in day birds; in fact, the number of rods is greatly reduced in the same birds.

If, in an otherwise darkened room, a strong light be passed through a prism and the resulting spectrum focussed on the floor, over which grain has been scattered, a hungry hen will eat the grain from the red, orange, yellow, and green areas, but will fail to see the grain illuminated by the blue light. She behaves as if the blue-violet end of the spectrum were black. Apparently she does not perceive blue light. This is true of all birds so tested. If one puts on glasses with one yellow lens and one red lens, then one does not see the blue end of the spectrum, either. The red and yellow oil droplets which were previously described in the bird's retina apparently act as a screen, shutting out the blue-violet rays. If this is true, then the various theories of color selection in birds is partially wrong, for the development of blue and indigo plumage, which appears black to birds, is then incidental and without reason.

Although the keenest vision, the widest range of accomodation, and the most complex mechanism for rapid accomodation are found among birds, not all birds have the same degree of development of the eye. There is a wide range of variation between the near-sighted eye of the ground bird, the far-sighted eye of the eagle, and the binocular eye of the owl.

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OUR NEW STATE ORNITHOLOGIST

Recently there was appointed to the position of State Ornithologist, Mr. Burt L. Monroe, who has long been an active member of the K. O. S. and was formerly president. He is to act as adviser to the Division of Fish and Game on game and non-game birds, aid in filming birds and their habitats, conduct laboratory work at his home in Anchorage, do other forms of investigation, and lecture extensively. This is a distinct honor to Burt and to all of us. We assure him that we are eager to aid him in every way to put Kentucky on the map so far as ornithology and conservation are concerned. Look for an announcement in our next issue as to a check-list of Kentucky birds now in the making.

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FILES OF THE WARBLER

Recently the University of Kentucky Library purchased a complete file of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, which included photographic copies of our earlier issues. There is also a complete file of the WARBLER at the University of Louisville Library and another in the private library of Dr. Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green.

BIRDS IN THE HARBOR

By FLOYD S. CARPENTER, Louisville

In most years a number of gulls select the harbor at Louisville for a winter resort. Perhaps the "smog" from the city reminds them of a coastal fog. While usually a few can be seen flying around, there are certain times and places where they can be seen in large numbers. If the river is low and most of the dam is closed, it is nothing unusual to see a hundred or more Herring Gulls and at times a few Ring-billed Gulls on the falls. They may be either winging their way over the swift water, ready to dart down after some floating scraps of food, or perhaps just resting in some shallow, quiet pool or perched on a rock or the dam itself. Of course, if the river rises, their resting ground becomes deep, swift water, and they have to go elsewhere.

About noon each day from 20 to 50 gulls come up to the main water-front of the city for dinner. It is along here that the steamboats are tied up and that the U. S. Coast Guard station is located. Birds and men alike must eat, and after dinner is prepared on the boats, the scraps are usually dumped overboard; the gulls are ready and waiting for them. It is quite a sight to see these gulls circling in the air or resting on the water. Often they come within a hundred feet of the levee. They vary from young of the first year to fully adult, and the plumage changes can be readily discerned. If the bird student is really in earnest about the gulls, he can bring a bag of food scraps along and, by throwing food into the water, get a near view of the winter visitors. The average pedestrian passing along calls them "sea gulls," while some want to know "what kind of wild ducks is them birds?" It is true that in the comparatively still water above the dam some 60 to 100 ducks may winter, but they keep so far from land that they are usually unseen unless one is deliberately looking for them; even then a telescope is needed to identify the species.

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MEMBERS OF THE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

JULY 1, 1941

Allen, Otis W., The Arms, Bowling Green.
Anderson, Anne, 1031 Fourth, Louisville.
Berea College Library, Berea.
Bandeen, Mrs. S. G., 627 South Main, Shelbyville.
Beckner, Colonel and Mrs. Lucien, 1204 South Second, Louisville.
Bergman, Amy, 209 University Avenue, Lexington.
Brecher, Leonard, 1900 Spring Drive, Louisville.
Brecher, Mrs. Leonard, 1900 Spring Drive, Louisville.
Bryens, Oscar McKinley, R. F. D. No. 1, McMillan, Michigan.
Carpenter, Floyd, 2402 Longest Ave., Louisville.
Counce, Dr. Cynthia, Western State Hospital, Hopkinsville.
Davies, P. A., 3124 Meadowlark Road, Louisville.
Davis, George, State Teachers College, Murfreesboro, Tenn.
Deane, Amy, 2313 Hale Ave., Louisville.
Dodge, Victor K., 137 Bell Court West, Lexington.
Doelckner, Eugene, R. F. D. 2, Box 35, Louisville.
Doelckner, Mrs. Eugene, R. F. D. 2, Box 35, Louisville.
Duncan, Mrs. Joseph L., 534 Barberry Lane, Louisville.
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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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MEMORIAL TO MISS YUNKER

The Outdoor Art League of Louisville dedicated on May 30 a sundial and bird bath at the entrance to Cherokee Park, facing Cherokee Parkway, to the memory of Miss Emilie Yunker, long an active member of the League. Several of our K. O. S. members participated in the ceremony. Vrey appropriately the memorial was unveiled by two school children, little Misses Mary Nancy Lea and Mary Jane Lips.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therefore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Thelma Gentry, Secretary-Treasurer, 516 East Arch Street, Madisonville, Ky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in the Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Teachers College, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
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NATIONAL MUSEUM

Autumn
1941

Vol. 17
No. 4

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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Volume XVII AUTUMN, 1941 Number 4

SEVENTEENTH FALL MEETING

On October 11 and 12 more than sixty enthusiastic members of the Kentucky Ornithological Society met at Beula Villa Hotel, Sulphur Well, Kentucky, for the seventeenth fall meeting. At the informal luncheon which opened the meeting, each person present was introduced by the one sitting next to him. During the afternoon field trips were conducted by Mrs. F. Everett Frei, Mr. Cal Rogers, and Dr. Gordon Wilson, the big find of all being a Lincoln Sparrow. Myrtle Warblers were abundant.

More people had arrived by dinner time. After an introduction of the late-comers Miss Evelyn Schneider read letters from members who were unable to attend: Dr. George R. Mayfield, Mr. A. F. Ganier, Mr. J. D. Figgins, Miss Beulah Marsh, Mrs. Dorothy Madden Hobson, John A. Patten, and Oscar McKinley Bryens. Dr. Wilson gave a brief account of his visit in 1934 to our northmost member, Mr. Bryens, and of the marvelous assiduity of this really great ornithologist. Miss Schneider read a letter from Miss Margaret Knox, president of the Central Indiana Ornithological Society, concerning a projected joint field trip with the K. O. S. Mr. Leonard Brecher reported that the Winter Feeding Committee had stocked parks with grain and still had storage bins full for distribution during the coming winter. The suggestion from Miss Lucy Furman that the society assist in getting a law passed to prohibit the sale of B-B guns was referred to a committee, which was first to investigate what is being done in other states. A motion was carried to appoint the K. O. S. members who planned to attend the Kentucky Conservation Council at Mammoth Cave on October 21 and 22 as special representatives of our society.

The nominating committee's report was given by Miss Amy Deane. The secretary was instructed to cast one vote for the committee's selection of officers for 1941-'42: President, Dr. Harvey Lovell, University of Louisville; Vice-President, Miss Mabel Slack, Atherton High School; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. F. Everett Frei, Glasgow; Councillors, Virgil D. King, Georgetown, and Miss Thelma Gentry, Madisonville. Mr. Leonard Brecher, Louisville, was retained as councillor. A hearty cheer of approval for the work of Miss Evelyn Schneider, retiring president, for her work was given by the society; Dr. Lovell, the new president, was introduced. Dr. Wilson was authorized to write an article for IN KENTUCKY, requested by the editor of that magazine; pictures are to be furnished by various members of the society. The secretary-treasurer was instructed to renew the membership of the K. O. S. in the Kentucky Conservation Council.

JUN 9 '44

Miss Gentry gave the following financial report:

RECEIPTS—

Balance on hand at close of 1940 report	$ 55.99
39½ Memberships @ $1.00	39.50
48 Memberships (from chapters) @ 75c	36.00
18 Student Memberships @ 25c	4.50
Interest on Endowment	10.50
Sale of back issues of the WARBLER	3.50
TOTAL	$149.99

DISBURSEMENTS—

For Printing, including covers, four issues of WARBLER	$ 80.00
Membership in Kentucky Conservation Council	2.00
Sacks for winter feeding project	4.48
K. E. A. Luncheon deficit	.60
Printing of stationery	7.40
Stamps	5.00
Mimeographing	1.40
TOTAL	$100.88
Balance on hand October 11, 1941	$49.11

Following the business session Mr. Leonard Brecher gave an illustrated lecture on "Makers of American Ornithology," a scholarly resume of the activities of many of the famous scholars who have contributed to ornithology as a science in America. Mr. Brecher has done much valuable research work in finding and photographing valuable old works on birds and has read enormously on the lives and achievements of scientists. His kodachrome studies of rare volumes were among the best contributions ever made to our society. Mrs. F. Everett Frei gave some intimate personal experiences that she and Mr. Frei have had with birds in a charming talk on "Birds in the Hand." Her account of Philip Charles, the wounded Cardinal that they kept for more than eight months until he could rejoin his mates in the woods, formed a scientific and emotional presentation of bird study that none of us is likely to forget.

At the round table on kodachrome activities brilliant scenes and intimate photo studies were given by Dr. Harvey Lovell, Dr. W. M. Clay, Mr. William M. Walker, and Mr. Floyd J. Carpenter. Miss Mabel Slack reported some interesting data on her bibliography of Kentucky ornithology, covering papers or references from very early times until within the last few years. Dr. Wilson gave an account of three Prothonotary Warbler nests in mailboxes in Fulton County and Warren County. Mr. Roger W. Barbour, of the Kentucky Fish and Game Commission, read a short paper on the birds observed or collected by him on the summit of Big Black Mountain in the summer of 1939.

Several of the members got up early and had a brief field trip before breakfast. Immediately after breakfast three parties again went forth, led by Dr. Wilson, Mr. Rogers, and Mr. Frei. A composite list of the species observed in the two days follows: Bluebird, Red-winged Blackbird, Indigo Bunting, Cardinal, Carolina Chickadee, Cowbird, Crow, Mourning Dove, Flicker, Goldfinch, Bronzed Grackle, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Sparrow Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Great Blue Heron, Blue Jay, Slate-colored Junco, Belted Kingfisher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Meadowlark, Mockingbird, White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Screech Owl, Phoebe, Wood Pewee, Robin, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Lincoln Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, White-Crowned Sparrow, White Throated Sparrow, English Sparrow, Summer Tanager, Tufted Titmouse, Hermit Thrush, Brown Thrasher, Red-eyed Towhee, White-eyed Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Western Palm Warbler, Yellow Palm Warbler, Pine Warbler, Cedar Waxwing, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Starling. Total, 64 species.

The following people attended the meetings: **Lexington**—Misses Ethel Young, Mamie Love, Helen Harms, Helen Fry, and Ann Graham; **Glasgow**—Mr. and Mrs. Everett Frei, Mr. and Mrs. Cal Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Nuckols, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent R. Jones, Mrs. W. C. Moss, and Mitchell Rogers; **Bowling Green**—Judge and Mrs. John B. Rodes and Dr. Gordon Wilson; **Knoxville, Tennessee**—W. M. Walker, Jr.; **Smiths Grove**—Dr. Byron C. Gibson; **Hopkinsville**—Mrs. Ellen S. Lyon, Dr. Cynthia Counce; **Sulphur Well**—King C. Crenshaw; **Grenada, Mississippi**—E. W. Counce; **Frankfort**—Roger W. Barbour; **Madisonville**—Thelma Gentry; **Paducah**—Edith Pearson and Hazel Kinslow; **Center**—Mrs. Edna Wood Kinnaird and Hazel Swartz; **Louisville**—Evelyn J. Schneider, Helen Peil, Amy Deane, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Brecher, Ruth Brecher, Lena Ruth Towles, Mrs. Baylor O. Hickman, Mabel Slack, Dorothy Sternberg, Beatrice Strenberg, Mary Seargent, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thacher, Betty Thacher, Florence Hagman, Dr. Harvey Lovell, Dr. W. M. Clay, Mrs. Mamie Boulware, Helen Browning, Esther E. Mason, Mrs. Boone Porter, Audrey A. Wright, Erma Fust, Lyda R. Boyd, Mrs. Alice Moore, Evelyn Moore, Martha Moore, Naomi McNulty, Mrs. Frank Carpenter, Floyd J. Carpenter, Arthur J. Unglaub, Mrs. A. J. Unglaub, Evelyn Dale, Henrietta Link, and Mrs. D. Wilkins.

—THELMA GENTRY, Secretary-Treasurer

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PROTHONOTARY WARBLERS NESTING IN MAILBOXES

In August, 1941, Mrs. Elvis Stahr, of Hickman, wrote me about a strange pair of "wild canaries" that were nesting in her mailbox. Her description was so accurate that I knew the bird could be only the Prothonotary Warbler, but I was afraid to trust my own impression. I sent the letter on to Mr. A. F. Ganier, who not only confirmed my identification but added that this species often nests in bait cups left accidentally by fishermen at Reelfoot Lake. I began to investigate in my own area and discovered that in 1940 a Prothonotary nested in the mailbox of Mr. and Mrs. Embry Smith, who live on a bluff near Barren River, just outside of Bowling Green, and that another one preempted a can on the porch of Mr. Charles F. Taylor, whose house is situated on another high bluff overlooking Barren River. Other items about the semi-domestication of the Prothonotary would be appreciated.

—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green

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ALBINO ROBIN AT MARION

While I was eating my lunch in early May, 1941, Harry McKinney called me by telephone to tell me that he had a strange bird in his yard. I drove at once and found a perfect albino immature Robin. It was out of the nest and able to fly a few feet. Its legs, bill, and eyes were pink; all its feathers were white. Its parents were normal birds and seemed much disturbed when we approached the little fellow too closely.

—T. ATCHISON FRAZER, Marion.

KENTUCKY WOODLANDS WILD LIFE REFUGE

A great area for bird students is the newly established Kentucky Woodlands National Wild Life Refuge, located in Trigg and Lyon Counties, "between the rivers." This heavily wooded area was formerly the property of the Hillman Land Company and numerous owners of small farms. For years it was jointly policed by the land company and the state but was taken over by the national government some two years ago. Originally kept as a "coaling," an area to grow wood for charcoal to refine iron ore, it has preserved since pioneer days a flock of Wild Turkeys and almost always has had a strain of Virginia Deer. The latter were killed out once and have been restocked in recent years. There are now said to be something like a thousand deer and approximately the same number of turkeys. A small force of rangers patrol the area, which also abounds in other forms of wild life. Three lakes have been built, one of them covering a hundred acres. Firetowers overlook the whole area.

Russell Starr and I spent August 30 and 31, 1941, in the area, camping at Hematite Lake, the largest one of the three. The naturalist, Mr. Eugene Cypert, showed us around and assured us of his great interest in ornithology. In his two years at Woodlands he has listed more than 150 species of birds. The construction of the lakes will doubtless bring in several other species. On Hematite Lake the Pied-billed Grebe has nested this year. We saw more than twenty of this species, including two very small immature ones. Unfortunately we saw no turkeys or deer but hope to find their haunts on our next trip.

The following birds were listed during our camp: Bluebird, Bobwhite, Red-winged Blackbird, Indigo Bunting, Cardinal, Carolina Chickadee, Crow, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Mourning Dove, Black Duck, Flicker, Acadian Flycatcher, Goldfinch, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Pied-billed Grebe, Green Heron, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Blue Jay, Kingfisher, Nighthawk, White-breasted Nuthatch, Barred Owl, Wood Pewee, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Great Blue Heron, Little Blue Heron, Egret, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, English Sparrow, Summer Tanager, Tufted Titmouse, Towhee, Red-eyed Vireo, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Maryland Yellow-throat, Downy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Carolina Wren, Turkey Vulture.

One of the most memorable things was the sight at early morning on Hematite Lake of 25 Egrets, 10 Little Blue Herons, and 6 Great Blue Herons, already a part of the landscape, taking possession, as was planned, of the artificial lake.

—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green.

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THIRD ANNUAL FIELD DAY AT OTTER CREEK

By ESTHER E. MASON

The Beckham Bird Club held its annual Spring Field Day at the Otter Creek Reservation, in Meade County, on Sunday, May 18, 1941. This was the third field day of this sort, the first having been held in 1939. It was impossible to obtain overnight accomodations in the cabins at Otter Creek, but 23 members and guests arrived early at the reservation and spent a long and busy day making a bird census. Those participating in this field day were: Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Brecher, Mrs. Brecher, Sr., Ruth Brecher, Floyd Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Doelckner, Amy Deane, Vera Henderson, Helen Peil, Dorothy Peil, Harvey Lovell, Esther Mason, Emma O'Neil, Dorothy Sternberg, Beatrice Strenberg, Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Stamm, Audrey Wright, Mabel Slack, Evelyn Schneider, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon C.

Rossman. Mr. and Mrs. Rossman are from Waukesha, Wisconsin, and are active members of a bird club there. They seemed keenly interested in the Kentucky birds, many of which they were seeing for the first time. Many of us had a new thrill as we watched their interest and pleasure in the Cardinal, which we have, alas, come to accept as commonplace.

It should be said, perhaps, that Otter Creek was made a recreational area in 1934. Since that time farm buildings have been torn down, and the country has been allowed to grow up again. Much that was open country is becoming brushy or wooded, and we might expect the field birds to be less abundant than those of the woodland. This was actually found to be the case. There are still open areas within the reservation, however, and an effort was made, by splitting the party into several small groups, to cover as much of the reservation and as many kinds of country as possible. It may be due to this fact that we found 81 species this year, as against 75 in 1940. On the other hand, our good record may be due to the calm, sunny day this year.

One of the small groups had an opportunity to observe an albino Field Sparrow. The bird was almost entirely white, the feathers having a soft, almost downy appearance. The same or an exactly similar albino Field Sparrow was observed in almost the same place in October, 1940. Interested searchers should go beyond the Bird Ring and down all the steps to the bottom of the hill. There, in the brush or small cedars at the bottom of the hill, our albino was last seen.

Here is our list, made between 7:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M.: Turkey Vulture, 5; Black Vulture, 1; Broad-winged Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bob-white, 6; Mourning Dove, 7; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 1; Whip-poor-will, 3; Chimney Swift, 12; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 1; Flicker, 2; Pileated Woodpecker, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Kingbird, 2; Crested Flycatcher, 10; Phoebe, 1; Acadian Flycatcher, 4; Wood Pewee, 6; Olive-sided Flycatcher, 1; Rough-winged Swallow, 2; Purple Martin, 1; Carolina Chickadee, 8; Tufted Titmouse, 10; Blue Jay, 10; Crow, 10; House Wren, 1; Bewick's Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 2; Mockingbird, 2; Catbird, 3; Brown Thrasher, 2; Robin, 4; Wood Thrush, 4; Olive-backed Thrush, 6; Gray-cheeked Thrush, 2; Veery, 2; Bluebird, 12; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 6; Cedar Waxwing, 20; Starling, 2; White-eyed Vireo, 8; Yellow-throated Vireo, 4; Red-eyed Vireo, 10; Warbling Vireo, 1; Prothonotary Warbler, 1; Tennessee Warbler, 4; Yellow Warbler, 4; Black-throated Green Warbler, 1; Cerulean Warbler, 4; Blackburnian Warbler, 2; Sycamore Warbler, 4; Bay-breasted Warbler, 2; Blackpoll Warbler, 2; Prairie Warbler, 2; Oven-bird, 2; Louisiana Water-thrush, 2; Kentucky Warbler, 4; Maryland Yellow-throat, 4; Yellow-breasted Chat, 8; Wilson's Warbler, 1; American Redstart, 2; English Sparrow, 10; Meadowlark, 4; Red-winged Blackbird, 12; Orchard Oriole, 2; Baltimore Oriole, 2; Bronzed Grackle, 3; Cowbird, 6; Scarlet Tanager, 3; Summer Tanager, 6; Cardinal, 6; Indigo Bunting, 12; Goldfinch, 10; Red-eyed Towhee, 10; Chipping Sparrow, 8; Field Sparrow, 10; Song Sparrow, 1. Total 81 species, 364 individuals.

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NEW OFFICERS OF BECKHAM BIRD CLUB

Dr. W. M. Clay is the newly-elected president of the Beckham Bird Club for the coming year. Mrs. F. W. Stamm is the vice-president, and Miss Esther E. Mason is the secretary. The first fall meeting was held on September 16, 1941, with the program consisting of illustrated talks on the summer's experiences with birds. Dr. and Mrs. Harvey Lovell discussed their summer adventures in Maine, and Miss Evelyn Schneider gave impressions of a short vacation in Florida.

* * * * * *

SOME UNRECORDED WHITE-FEATHERED BIRDS

By JOHN B. LOEFER, Berea College

Nature sometimes exposes certain animals of various species by depriving them of their normal quota of pigment. They are known as albinos and are often seen among wild as well as among domesticated animals and human beings. The familiar pink-eyed white mice, white rats, white guinea pigs, and white rabbits developed by selective breeding are examples of complete or total albinism. Partial albinos lack the pink eyes and usually possess some pigment.

Among birds all degrees of albinism have been reported. Even the crow, that proverbial brave bird, sometimes shows a white feather. In many cases it may be difficult to identify a totally white bird with certainty, since normal distinguishing colors are absent. If the bird happens to be of a gregarious species, it may be possible to identify it on the basis of "birds of a feather" flocking together. White-feathered birds are very conspicuous, and even a single one is easily distinguished in a very large flock of normally-pigmented birds. For this reason observers generally make reports of white Blackbirds and Blue Jays, such bits of information being considered unusually newsworthy.

So frequently were albinos reported that some years ago the editor of a well-known ornithological journal requested that no more contributions about albinos be sent in unless they were accompanied by "observations of significance." He added, "We might further suggest that such albinos as are met with had much better be left alive than collected. The intrinsic value of an albino Blackbird, for instance, is much greater for potential information alive than when turned into a study skin. Normally colored birds make far more instructive specimens from nearly every point of view." (Grinnell, 1923).

The frequency of such reports belies the abundance of albinos. Actually they are rare. Frazer (1926) suggested that "there is perhaps one white Crow to ten million black ones." Davis (personal communication) found only one off-color individual, although he banded several thousand Chimney Swifts. Stevens (1930) had trapped some seven hundred Juncos before he found a partial albino. Some bird students said that they had never noticed any albinos, although they had been making field observations for a long time.

Although the phenomenon is relatively rare, nevertheless, it has been observed quite consistently by many observers over a period of years. One ornithologist with whom I corresponded stated that over a period of many years he had seen more than a hundred individuals representing about thirty-five species. It seems to occur most often among gregarious birds, for there are more reports in the literature of albino English Sparrows, Starlings, Robins, Crows and Quail than for any other species. In one case (Edson, 1928) 40% of a large flock of Brewer's Blackbirds were reported to be albinistic.

Observations made in this vicinity over a period of a half dozen years have revealed a fair number of albinos. A list of the albinos seen about the Berea campus was submitted at the spring meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society. Considerable interest was evidenced in the subject by attending ornithologists, and many told of having seen albinos on several occasions. Correspondence with others revealed a rather long list of unrecorded albinos. With the consent of these observers, for which permission I am very grateful, their reports have been combined with our local records to form the list given below. It represents a total of fifty-four reports for twenty-seven species. No reports of albinism for seven of these species, viz., the Northern Red-shouldered Hawk, the Southern Flicker, the Blackcapped Chickadee, the Brown Thrasher, the Eastern Field Sparrow, the Eastern Song Sparrow, and the Mississippi Song Sparrow, were found in the literature.

LIST OF UNRECORDED ALBINOS

(The observer's name and the number of birds seen are indicated after the name of the avian species. Descriptive remarks follow. Except when otherwise noted, reports are from Kentucky. Albinos have not previously been reported for the species designated with an asterisk.)

TURKEY VULTURE. **Cathartes aura septentrionalis.** Wied. J. A. Patten, 1 partial albino.

EASTERN RED-TAILED HAWK. **Buteo borealis borealis.** (Gmelin). A. F. Ganier (Tenn.), 1 partial albino?; B. L. Monroe, 1 partial albino immature bird; A. G. Wright, 1 partial albino.

†NORTHERN RED-SHOULDERED HAWK. **Buteo lineatus lineatus (Gmelin).** J. A. Patten, 1 partial albino.

EASTERN BOB-WHITE. **Colinus virginianus virginianus** (Linnaeus). D. O. Hicks, 1 partial albino, with about six brown feathers on its back; B. L. Monroe, 1 pure white.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT. **Phasianus colchicus torquatus** Gmelin. H. Wilson (Wis.), 4 seen, 3 of them appeared white all over, one with darker spots on each side of the head.

CHIMNEY SWIFT. **Chaetura pelagica (Linnaeus).** R. Davis (Ill.), 1 partial albino, with top of head and neck white; A. F. Ganier (Tenn.), 1 seen in flight in a flock.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER. **Melanerpes erythrocephalus** (Linnaeus). E. Wright (Ill.), 1 all white except for pinkish head.

†SOUTHERN FLICKER. **Colaptes auratus auratus** (Linnaeus). J. B. Loefer, 1 partial albino, about a dozen white feathers visible on its back, seen in 1941.

EASTERN KINGBIRD. **Tyrannus tyrannus** (Linnaeus). O. M. Bryens (Mich.), 1 partial albino, seen in 1941.

NORTHERN BLUE JAY. **Cyanocitta cristata cristata** (Linnaeus). A. F. Ganier (Tenn.), 1, a captive bird, was pure white at first but began to show a bluish tint at eight months.

EASTERN CROW. **Corvus brachyrhynchos brachyrhynchos** Brehm. A. F. Ganier (Tenn.), 2, 1 creamy buff, another white with a few small black feathers on head; V. King, 1 white, seen repeatedly in a flock one season; H. Wilson (Wis.), 1 almost totally white seen often in 1934 and 1935 and apparently the same one again in 1940.

†BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE. **Penthestes atricapillus atricapillus** (Linnaeus). O. M. Bryens (Mich.), 2 partial albinos banded in 1934 and 1935.

EASTERN MOCKINGBIRD. **Mimus polyglottos polyglottos** (Linnaeus). G. Wilson, 1 partial albino, with extra white in tail and wings.

CATBIRD. **Dumetella carolinensis** (Linnaeus). L. Brecher, 1 partial albino with white wings, nested in 1932, young were all normal.

†BROWN THRASHER. **Toxostoma rufum** (Linnaeus). E. Schneider, 1 partial albino? seen in 1939 and 1940; B. L. Monroe, 1 "pure albino," with "pink eyes," thought to have been nesting in the neighborhood.

EASTERN ROBIN. **Turdus migratorius migratorius** (Linnaeus). W. R. Allen, 1 partial albino male recorded for three years on premises where its mate nested, also recorded odd-colored young believed to be its offspring; R. Davis (Ill.), 1 partial albino, all white with dark wings, nested one season; T. A. Frazer, 1 immature, pure white with pink bill, legs, and feet; J. B. Loefer, 1 partial albino, with numerous white feathers, seen in 1938, 1939, and 1941; E. Schneider, 1 appeared entirely white, found nesting in 1937; H. Wilson (Wis.), 2 partial albinos, one in 1932 and one in 1936.

STARLING. **Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris** (Linnaeus). O. M. Bryens (Mich.), 1 partial albino banded in 1936; E. G. Wright (Ill.), 1 all white.

ENGLISH SPARROW. **Passer domesticus domesticus** (Linnaeus). O. M. Bryens (Mich.), 19 partial albinos, most of them banded in 1940 and 1941, previous to 1940 many with white feathers were killed; R. Davis (Ill.), several partial albinos; A. F. Ganier (Tenn.), several partial albinos?; J. B. Loefer, 1 that appeared all white seen frequently during the winter of 1939; E. Mason, 2 partial albinos, especially white in wings; J. A. Patten, 2 that appeared all white, one in 1932, one in 1933; G. Wilson, 2 partial albinos, one with one white feather, another almost half white; H. Wilson (Wis.), 2 partial albinos were trapped.

EASTERN RED-WING. **Agelaius phoeniceus phoeniceus** (Linnaeus). J. A. Patten, 1 which appeared all white from a distance; E. G. Wright (Ill.), 1 all white except for pink wings.

BRONZED GRACKLE. **Quiscalus quiscula aeneus** (Ridgway). O. M. Bryens (Mich.), 2 partial albinos, 1 male, 1 female, seen in 1930 and 1938; R. Davis (Ill.), 1 completely white in a migrating flock in 1940; A. F. Ganier (Tenn.), 1 partial albino, creamy buff; J. B. Loefer, 1 partial albino, with left and right tail feathers with broad white bands; D. Spillman, 1 partial albino, with half of tail feathers white.

EASTERN COWBIRD. **Molothrus ater ater** (Broddaert). O. M. Bryens (Mich.), 12 partial albino adult males, one retaken in a trap.

EASTERN CARDINAL. **Richmondena cardinalis cardinalis** (Linnaeus). R. B. McGhee (Tenn.), 3 (1 female and 2 young) completely white, except for a coral tinge to the wings and with pink eyes, normal in size but weak in flight; J. A. Patten, 1 all white.

SLATE-COLORED JUNCO. **Junco hyemalis hyemalis** (Linnaeus). G. Wilson, 1 partial albino with solid white tail seen in 1936.

†EASTERN FIELD SPARROW. **Spizella pusilla pusilla** (Wilson). A. F. Ganier (Tenn.), 2 partial albinos with white in tails; J. A. Patten, 1 partial albino with white feathers in the upper part of each wing.

EASTERN FOX SPARROW. **Passerella iliaca iliaca** (Merrem). G. Wilson, 1 partial albino with white spots scattered all over the body.

†EASTERN SONG SPARROW. **Melospiza melodia melodia** (Wilson). O. M. Bryens (Mich.), 2 partial albinos, one seen in 1925, the other banded in 1934.

†MISSISSIPPI SONG SPARROW. **Melosipza melodia beata** (Bangs). A. F. Ganier (Tenn.) 1 partial albino, about one-half white and one-half normal.

The majority of these reports refer to birds which are not entirely devoid of pigment and hence are designated as partial albinos. As is true for most records of white-feathered birds, very few represent cases of total albinism. Pink eyes, along with flesh-colored feet and white feathers, designate total absence of pigmentation. In the above list we can readily pick out the reports which refer to total albinism. Monroe reported a pure white Quail, and in reference to a Brown Thrasher he says, "This bird was a pure albino and, as far as I could ascertain, certainly had pink eyes." Frazer's immature Robin was pure white with a pink bill, pink legs, and pink feet. Although he did not mention eye color, this bird may have been totally albinistic. Immature totally white birds, however, may later develop pigment, as Ganier found for a young Blue Jay. It was all white when first captured but after eight months developed a bluish tint. Most of the other reports of all-white birds fail to mention eye color, and hence one cannot say whether or not they were total albinos. In some cases traces of the dominant color persist, e. g., McGhee mentions a coral tinge to the wings of the Cardinal he saw. Wright also observed the pinkish head of a Red-headed Woodpecker that was otherwise quite white.

It is worth noting that many of these reports mention birds seen in the same locality from year to year. The female Cardinal reported by McGhee had nested in the same locality for several years. Mr. H. Wilson believed he saw the same white-feathered Crow in a flock during the summer of 1934, 1935, and 1940. Miss Evelyn Schneider thought she saw the same partially albino Brown Thrasher in two successive years. Here on our campus for three of the last four years a partial albino Robin which has quite a few white feathers, except on its head, has been repeatedly seen, although its nest has never been located. Such records indicate that many albinos are not overcome in the struggle for existence and, in spite of being exposed by their conspicuous white feathers, manage to hold their own.

There is considerable evidence to indicate that in most animals albinism is inherited as a recessive factor. This would explain the interesting findings of McIlhenny (1940) on Mockingbirds, and it may also account for the reports describing large numbers of white-feathered birds in a given flock, e. g., Edson's (1928) report that 40% of a large flock of Brewer's Blackbirds were albinistic. Also it explains why Wayne (1922) found an uninterrupted strain of albinism for twenty-two years in Sharp-tailed Sparrows in a certain vicinity.

On the other hand there are some reports indicating that certain environmental factors may be a cause of importance. The unusual experience of Hegeman (1931) is interesting. Several normally feathered Robins were trapped and banded. One, recaptured two years later, was pure white and had also acquired a white mate. The other, also retaken after two years, had many white feathers. Bryens recaptured a Sparrow a year after banding it and found it had two more white feathers than when banded. This is difficult to explain on a purely genetic basis.

It is fortunate that ornithologists generally are collecting fewer of the albinos they see and are resorting to other methods of study, particularly banding. Such studies should point the way toward a more direct application of experimental methods in the study of albinism.

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A PRELIMINARY LIST OF THE SUMMER BIRDS OF THE SUMMIT OF BIG BLACK MOUNTAIN

By ROGER W. BARBOUR, Frankfort

During the summer of 1939 I spent approximately a month in Harlan County, Kentucky, making a study of the vertebrate animals of that region. We established a base camp on the Poor Fork of the Cumberland River at Ross Point, four miles from the town of Harlan, and a secondary camp on the top of Big Black Mountain, elevation 4100 feet, the highest point in Kentucky, thirty miles away. Two periods, July 19-22 and August 3-12, were spent on the mountain. Though I did not set out to determine the breeding birds of the mountain, I collected many species there and kept a fairly accurate daily bird list. I knew that Dr. Alexander Wetmore had a considerable amount of data on the birds of the mountains and intended publishing it shortly and that the late Dr. Arthur H. Howell had published a study of the birds there in 1910.

Here is the list of the birds that I observed plus the ones which have been recorded in publications:

1. **Sharp-Shinned Hawk**—One was observed high over the mountain on August 11.
2. **Eastern Red-Tailed Hawk**—One seen flying across a logging road on August 9.
3. **Canada Ruffed Grouse**—None seen but the species reported as fairly common by residents on the mountain. It is assumed that the northern sub-species is the common form.
4. **Eastern Bob-White**—One specimen collected at the summit of the mountain and a covey of half-grown young seen.
5. **American Woodcock**—One specimen collected; common in the cool, damp coves about the summit; evidently breeds.
6. **Ruby-Throated Hummingbird**—Fairly common.
7. **Northern Flicker**—None collected and few seen.
8. **Eastern Hairy Woodpecker**—None seen by me but recorded by Wetmore.
9. **Northern Downy Woodpecker**—Common.
10. **Northern Crested Flycatcher**—Rare; only one sight and voice record.
11. **Eastern Phoebe**—Not common; three nests were located at about 3800 feet.
12. **Eastern Wood Pewee**—Fairly common.
13. **Northern Blue Jay**—Not seen by the writer but recorded by Wetmore.
14. **Carolina Chickadee**—Very common. According to Wetmore this is the northernmost point where the Carolina Chickadee is known to breed. His specimens show a slight tendency toward the Northern Carolina Chickadee, the common Kentucky form.
15. **White-Breasted Nuthatch**—Fairly common.
16. **Eastern Winter Wren**—Rare. A juvenile male was collected on August 6.
17. **Carolina Wren.** Not recorded by me but listed by Wetmore.
18. **Catbird**—Common.
19. **Eastern Brown Thrasher**—Not uncommon. Five were seen in a laurel thicket on two occasions at about 3800 feet. Another was seen at about 4000 feet.
20. **Southern Robin**—Relatively uncommon; only three were recorded.
21. **Wood Thrush**—Common in suitable areas.
22. **Veery**—Abundant; theirs is one of the commonest bird songs.
23. **Eastern Bluebird**—Not seen by me but recorded by Wetmore.

24. **Cedar Waxwing**—Recorded by Wetmore on June 25; I found it abundant after August 5.

25. **Mountain Solitary Vireo**—Relatively abundant.

26. **Red-Eyed Vireo**—Common.

27. **Black and White Warbler**—Observed on numerous occasions.

28. **Worm-Eating Warbler**—Observed but a few times.

29. **Cairns's Warbler**—Common. Often we saw ten or fifteen in one hour.

30. **Black-Throated Green Warbler**—I saw only one warbler that seemed to be of this species, but Howell recorded it from the mountain.

31. **Cerulean Warbler**—Recorded only by Howell.

32. **Blackburnian Warbler**—Only one recorded.

33. **Chestnut-Sided Warbler**—One of the commonest of the warblers.

34. **Northern Pine Warbler**—Not common.

35. **Oven-Bird**—Relatively uncommon.

36. **Northern Yellow-Throat**—Very common.

37. **Yellow-Breasted Chat**—Relatively uncommon.

38. **Hooded Warbler**—Rather common in suitable areas.

39. **Canada Warbler**—Not seen by me but recorded by both Wetmore and Howell.

40. **Redstart**—Common.

41. **Eastern Meadowlark**—Not at all common. I believe that only two pairs nested on the summit of the mountain in 1939.

42. **Scarlet Tanager**—Not common.

43. **Rose-Breasted Grosbeak**—Relatively common.

44. **Indigo Bunting**—Uncommon. I saw only one bird.

45. **Eastern Goldfinch**—Relatively common.

46. **Red-Eyed Towhee**—Common in suitable areas.

47. **Carolina Junco**—Probably the commonest bird on the mountain. Along the road one can scaracely get out of sight of these interesting little birds.

48. **Eastern Chipping Sparrow**—Recorded only by Howell.

49. **Eastern Field Sparrow**—Abundant in suitable areas.

50. **Mississippi Song Sparrow**—Not common. Only two were observed by me.

By way of contrast I should like to give a list of birds that are to be seen at the base of the mountain but have not yet been recorded from the summit: Eastern Green Heron, Eastern Sparrow Hawk, Spotted Sandpiper, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Black-billed Cuckoo, Southern Screech Owl, Eastern Whip-poor-will, Chimney Swift, Eastern Belted Kingfisher, Acadian Flycatcher, Rough-winged Swallow, Purple Martin, Eastern Crow, Tufted Titmouse, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Parula Warbler, Eastern Yellow Warbler, Northern Prairie Warbler, Louisiana Water Thrush, Kentucky Warbler, House Sparrow, and Eastern Cardinal.

Certainly this list from the summit is far from complete. Undoubtedly there are more than fifty species there in the summer. If I ever get back to Big Black Mountain, I suspect that my list of birds will again be incidental, but I do expect to increase my list.

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SECOND KENTUCKY WILDLIFE AND NATURAL HISTORY CONFERENCE

By HARVEY LOVELL, University of Louisville

The Second Kentucky Wildlife and Natural History Conference was held at the Otter Creek Recreational Demonstration Area on September 26, 27 and 28, 1941. About two hundred different people attended all or part of the activities, including about thirty members of the Kentucky Ornithological Society. Cooperating organizations included the National Park Service, the W. P. A. Recreation Project, the Natural History Club of Louisville, the Kentucky Ornithological Society, the Beckham Bird Club, the Louisville Astronomical Association, and the Municipal Hiking Club of Louisville.

There were two papers devoted to ornithology: one, by Harvey B. Lovell, entitled "The Nesting Birds of Otter Creek Area in Relation to Habitats" and the other by Gordon Wilson on "The Nesting Birds of Southern Kentucky." Dr. Wilson presided at the general meeting on Saturday afternoon, which included such well-known speakers as Dr. W. R. Allen, University of Kentucky; Dr. Paul Kolachov, of Seagram's Distillery; Tom Wallace, editor of THE LOUISVILLE TIMES; Kenneth Taylor, of the Sports Department of THE COURIER-JOURNAL; and Jack Raymon, herpetologist of Park City. The feature speaker of the conference was Julius Johnson, whose talk, "From Ozone to Silt," was illustrated by magnificent slides of the Rocky Mountains, the Grand Canyon, and other Western wonders. Kenneth Taylor also devoted his Saturday-noon Wild Life Program over WHAS to the conference, in which he interviewed Dr. W. M. Clay, Mrs. Alice Moore, and Mr. F. H. Bunce.

An informal meeting of the K. O. S. was held on the grass Saturday at noon at a call from President Evelyn J. Schneider, to discuss the fall meeting at Sulphur Well on October 11 and 12. Equally informal was the folk dancing Saturday evening to the accompaniment of rural orchestry.

Leonard Brecher led a short field trip from six to eight Saturday morning, but few birds were seen because of a dense fog. Miss Evelyn Schneider led another trip on Sunday from nine to one, during which time the weather was warm and sunny. A strong breeze, together with the dense foliage, already showing the beginning of autumn colors, again made bird finding anything but easy. This trip went over the cliffs at Lover's Leap with the aid of the pipeline, along the railroad track to Rockhaven, and then along the clear stream to Morgan's Cave. We then detoured to the store, ostensibly to look for orioles and wrens, but we managed to find time to stop for cold drinks; then back across the fields to Piomingo. The warblers in fall plumage were as much alike as two peas, but Floyd Carpenter was able to identify many of them with the aid of his key to the warblers in fall plumage (THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, Vol. XI, No. 4, 1935). On a patch of touch-me-not we saw hovering an animal which we nearly took to be a Ruby-throated Hummingbird, but closer inspection showed it to be a Sphinx moth.

K. O. S. members and friends participating in the bird census included Leonard Brecher, Jeff Buchanan, Floyd Carpenter, William Clay, Amy Deane, Jack Goodykuntz, Vera Henderson, H. B. Lovell, Ruth Marcum, Miss McRae, John Moore, Helen Peil, Dorothy Peil, Kent Previette, Hollis Rogers, Evelyn Schneider, Mabel Slack, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Dorothy Sternberg, Beatrice Sternberg, and Audrey Wright.

Here was our species list: Turkey Vulture, Marsh Hawk, Osprey, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Mourning Dove, Belted Kingfisher, Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Phoebe, some unidentified flycatcher, Blue Jay, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Robin, Wood Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, Ovenbird, Louisiana Water-Thrush, English Sparrow, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Goldfinch, Red-eyed Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology--the study of birds--is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therefore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Thelma Gentry, Secretary-Treasurer, 516 East Arch Street, Madisonville, Ky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in the Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Teachers College, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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Vol. 18
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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Volume XVIII WINTER, 1942 Number 1

PHILIP CHARLES

By MARY LOU FREI

October 21, 1940, will linger in our memory as the beginning of one of our most interesting experiences in bird study. On that red-letter day an adult male Cardinal was brought to us by a friend with the request that we keep the bird until its injured wing had healed.

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The bright red feathers of the Cardinal had been his undoing, and he was the victim of the old equation—boy plus air rifle equals wounded bird.

Philip Charles Cardinal Frei, to give him his full name, proved that he possessed the true Cardinal spirit by indignantly biting off the bandage that we placed on him and hopping so restlessly in the small gathering cage that we were forced to put him, minus bandage, into a much larger cage. Here he remained for a week apparently content. Certainly his appetite was unimpaired. Then he took advantage of the insecurely fastened top of the cage to push his way out. He seemed to be so happy to be free from the cage that we left him at liberty in the room (our den) and brought in holly boughs and cedar branches to make a private forest for him.

Philip enjoyed biting off the holly leaves and twigs and accepted with a lordly condescension the sunflower seeds that I offered him. His first night of freedom was divided between plucking at the loose feathers in his injured wing and observing that interesting phenomenon, his own shadow.

As he grew stronger, he extended his hoppings and awkward attempts at flying beyond the radius of his forest. A wood pewee's nest in one corner of the room had an irresistible attraction for him, and he often huddled there. One day he achieved his heart's desire to sit on the mounted Red-tailed Hawk that reposed on top of the bookcase, and after that the head and outsretched wings of the hawk were his favorite perching places.

Snubby, our fox terrior, had been trained to let birds alone. She was tolerant of Philip, even the time when he explored the kitchen, took fourteen sips of water from the dog's bowl, perched on the rim of her basket (complete with dog), and flew off over her head. Philip often hopped right under Snubby's nose, and she seemed completely indifferent. However, in order to keep down jealously, whenever I fed Philip pecan halves or bits of apple, I would also give bites to Snubby.

Philip must have been a jitterbug at heart, for he enjoyed hearing talking and laughing, music, the radio; and whenever I typed, he would perch within a few inches of my elbow, seemingly fascinated with the clatter of the keys and the clang of the bell.

One of the greatest thrills that he gave us was when he sang on four different occasions during the Christmas holidays. His usual vocal attempts were limited to chippings and soft whistles.

On the night of February 2, 1941, he took a bath in his water bowl, the first time we had seen him bathe. He sat flat in the bowl, got himself as wet as possible under the cramped conditions, perched on a limb, vigorously fluffed his feathers, and spread his tail. For over an hour he was very active and ate heartily. The bath must have been a pleasant experience, for thereafter he enjoyed a daily dip.

A female Cardinal visited the open feeding shelf outside the den windows on February 5. Philip immediately lost his heart to this demure gray-and-rose lady, who sat serenely stuffing herself while Philip vainly endeavored to attract her attention with coaxing calls of "Whip! whip."

We had taken no pictures of our Cardinal until my husband, Everett, secured several shots on the night of February 12. The best of the pictures is reproduced here.

My notes show that on February 20 the female Cardinal came to the shelf several times, much to Philip's agitation. Her manner of cool indifference had changed to a definite coyness. She was feeding close to the window, with a glance now and then for Philip, when her mate flew down and shoved her rudely aside. She resumed feeding at the far end of the shelf, while Philip and her mate fought through the window. Both males would utter a war cry and dash themselves at the window panes in a futile effort to annihilate the rival. On February 21 Everett took a picture of their fighting and although lighting conditions were very poor, the birds were caught in characteristic positions.

We found Philip in the living room several mornings in early March, perched on a vase on top of the piano. Our surmise was that he went there because that room was lighter than the den in the early morning. Later we found that he had been eating sumac berries from bouquets on the mantel. We took a branch of the sumac to his forest, and he was quite content.

He especially enjoyed eating sunflower, squash, cantaloupe, watermelon, millet, and regular bird seeds; whole grain and popped corn, suet, cheese, steamed raisins, hard-boiled eggs, walnuts, pecans and peanuts, bread and cooky crumbs, rose hips, apple bits and seeds, wild cherries, dogwood, wahoo, holly, and sumac berries. He was moderately fond of pokeberries and would take coral, greenbrier, catbriar, and barberries infrequently.

We had refrained from banding Philip because of his injury, but as his wing was healing rapidly, we banded him on May 14, with band No. 36-219590. He would let me feed him and scratch his stomach, but he never enjoyed being handled. After he had been banded, he pouted for a whole day. He pecked at the band and lost his balance more than once trying to remove the shiny strip of metal.

When warmer weather came, we fixed a place for him on the screened-in back porch, and he seemed contented there until July 11. At noon of that day he flew into the house and was so restless that we decided that the time had come to give him complete freedom. We propped back the screen door. After teetering on the edge of the porch for a while, he hopped slowly toward the hedge. He was working his way to the wild cherry tree when he was challenged by a male Cardinal, who fought him until Everett came on the scene. A very much chastened Philip hopped back along the hedge until he saw the screen door open, and then he flew to his familiar perch. His rival flew around the house, still wanting to fight.

A week later, July 18, plumbers working in our basement neglected to shut the screen door, and he flew out. I noticed the unusual silence and had a premonition that Philip was gone, as indeed he was.

Two hours later I heard a Cardinal pouring out his heart in song, and I rushed out with field glasses and found that it was Philip singing imploringly. He was in a maple tree, clmbing higher and higher. How any unattached female Cardinal could withstand his fervent beseeching I cannot see: surely he found a mate.

He stayed around for several days, and we have seen him at intervals since. We cared for him for over eight and a half months, and it was a delightful experience. We were grateful that he had recovered sufficiently to regain his freedom. Every time I hear a Cardinal chipping, I wonder, "Could that be Philip?"

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

By HELEN PEIL

On Thursday, November 20, 1941, Thanksgiving Day, a group of bird enthusiasts started out in a pouring rain from Louisville. Incidentally, why does it always rain on members of the Beckham Bird Club when they go on a bird trip? The goal of the travelers was Urbana, Illinois, where the Wilson Ornithological Club was to meet the next two days. As we progressed northward and westward, the weather steadily improved; soon we were riding through bright sunshine. Our spirits, which had survived the dampness of that early-morning start remarkably well, soon rose even higher. By the time we arrived in Urbana and were comfortably settled at the Urbana-Lincoln Hotel, we were in the proper mellow mood to dine sumptuously on turkey and roast goose in the quaint dining room of our hotel. The evening was spent in chatting in the parlors, renewing old friendships, and making new friends as the group increased in numbers. Some went early to bed, but others sat up until the wee small hours settling some of the vexatious problems that plague bird lovers. Might we mention that there was also considerable basking in the reflected glory of the celebrities who had arrived to be on the program?

Friday morning we started out to register at the new Illini Union building, about a mile from our hotel. How can I describe that magnificent and beautiful building where the Wilson Club was so cordially welcomed and entertained? These words taken from a bulletin which gave the plan for each of the four floors (a necessary precaution to keep newcomers from getting lost) certainly do not do justice to the dignified, yet warm and friendly atmosphere of this new student union building: "The sole idea has been to provide a distinguished social center for campus life, which it is hoped will furnish not only service but real inspiration for better living and a finer university to all who enter its doors." The Browsing Room, with its 1500 books; the game room, with its ping pong and card tables; the bowling alleys; the cafeteria, with its delicious food at very reasonable prices, served in an attractively decorated room where we sat in chairs upholstered in pale blue and yellow leather, in addition to the many lounges—all contributed their share to our comfort and enjoyment. The University of Illinois, the Illinois State Natural History Survey, the Urbana-Champaign Bird Club, and a number of interested groups are to be congratulated on the splendid hospitality which they extended to visitors to the Wilson Club meetings.

But lest you think we spent our entire time playing, we shall now take you with us to the first meetings. The address of welcome was made by Carl G. Hartman, head of the departments of zoology and physiology at the University of Illinois. After a short business meeting the program got under way with seven short papers read by members of the club. Discussion was invited at the end of each paper, but lack of time sometimes prevented very interesting questions being asked.

The other sessions were held in Gregory Hall, another beautiful new building, a short walk across the campus from the Union Building. An excellent auditorium, just the right size to take care of the group comfortably, was assigned to the club for its use. Throughout the sessions the usual plan of the club at its annual meetings was followed: the papers read were not over twenty minutes in length, the average being fifteen minutes. Many talks were accompanied by colored slides or colored motion pictures. Whenever possible, a brief period at the end of each paper was devoted to discussion.

Friday night's program was especially enjoyable, being a good example of the high-quality material given at Wilson Club meetings and also of the caliber of the men presenting this material. Here it is in detail:

A SHOW OF NATURAL COLOR MOTION PICTURES

8:00 P. M., Room 112, Gregory Hall

The Bobolink and the Blue Jay, Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr., Carleton College and University of Michigan Biological Station.

Bird Life of the Mississippi Valley, Karl H. Maslowski, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Wings of the West, Cleveland P. Grant, Baker-Hunt Foundation, Covington, Kentucky.

If space permitted us to give the complete program for the other sessions, you would find many more famous names on the lists of speakers. Among them would be Roger Tory Peterson, George Miksch Sutton, Lawrence H. Walkinshaw, Theodore H. Frison, Murl Deusing, and our own Leonard Brecher, of Louisville.

Mixing business with pleasure, we attended on Saturday afternoon an auction of seven of George Miksch Sutton's original paintings. Jimmy Young of Louisville was the auctioneer who aroused the crowd to such heights of enthusiasm and good-humored bidding that some of the members practically had to walk home, having spent all their gasoline money to outbid their neighbors for a prize picture. The pictures were most graciously donated by Dr. Sutton, the entire proceeds of the auction to be used in financing illustrations for the WILSON BULLETIN.

Saturday night even the elements conspired to help make the last meeting a noteworthy one. Snow began falling at dusk in thick white flakes that soon blanketed everything in soft white. As we drove back to the hotel from the banquet and the last gorgeous colored motion pictures, we breathed sighs of solid comfort and contentment—two days of delightful and inspiring entertainment climaxed by an evening of good company, good food, and that delight to the heart of every lover of the out-of-doors, new-fallen snow.

Fourteen Kentuckians attended the convention: Evelyn J. Schneider, Mabel Slack, Audrey Wright, Rhoda Green, Amy Deane, Mary Louise Brecher, Leonard C. Brecher, Helen Peil, James B. Young, Burt L. Monroe, H. C. Rogers, Clayton Gooden, Dr. Cynthia Counce, and Mr. Counce.

* * * * * *

LATE NESTING OF DOVE

Two and a half miles from Dawson Springs on Highway 109 a Dove is now nesting (September 26, 1941); there are two eggs in the nest. The nest is on my farm and has already produced two broods this year. Since the season for Dove shooting is now on or soon will be, this seems rather unusual, though I know little of the habits of these birds. The principal of our high school suggested that I report this to bird students.

—F. L. DUNN, R. F. D. No. 1, Dawson Springs.

NESTING BIRDS OF KENTUCKY

For several months the editor has been assembling materials for a list of nesting birds of Kentucky. Most of the long-standing ornithologists of the state and summer investigators have contributed to this study. It will be ready for inclusion in our next issue.

* * * * * *

LONG-EARED OWL IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

On Saturday, November 1, 1941, at Haag's Nursery, located on the Taylorsville Road in Jefferson County, about two miles east of Louisville, I saw a Long-eared Owl. Although Kentucky is well within the winter range of this bird, there are few authentic instances of its actually being seen.

With a companion I was walking through an acre or so of half-grown cedar trees when I heard the cries of a half-dozen Blue Jays. As I neared a tree, the owl flew down the rows of cedars, and I caught but a glimpse of it. Its large wing-spread caused me at first to think that it was a Great Horned Owl. It flew perhaps a quarter of a mile to a sweet gum. Following the clamor of the Blue Jays, I located it again, possibly thirty feet from the ground in full view. The day was bright and sunlit, and I watched the bird at fifty yards with 8x25 binoculars for some fifteen minutes. It then flew, harassed by the jays, to a beech, where I again watched it at twenty-five yards for an equal period of time. At last I forced it to fly, because I feared that a farmer, attracted by my actions, had seen the owl and might kill it.

There was no doubt as to its identity. The large orange facial disks, surrounding the yellow eyes, were plain and distinct. The long ear tufts were constantly erect and, as my companion remarked, resembled "V for Victory." The bird was crow-sized and gave the appearance of being extremely slender and upright. The barring of the breast was not so distinct as might have been expected, but the wind was strong and the feathers were constantly ruffled, so that no distinct pattern was visible.

—JAMES BOSWELL YOUNG, Louisville.

* * * * * *

LOONS ON THE OHIO RIVER

November 16, 1941, was a clear, warm, and still day. Many trees were still decked in red, brown, and yellow, and some were in green leaves, a remarkably late fall. As Theo White and I boarded a small kayak for a thirteen-mile paddle down the Ohio River from Mauckport, Indiana, to the Harrison County State Forest, we looked forward to a beautiful trip and had hopes of seeing a few ducks. Actually we saw a few which were so far away that we could determine only that the majority were mergansers. But often the unexpected happens, and we were in for a real treat. We had hardly started before we saw three Loons, several hundred yards away but easily recognizable through our binoculars.

Three or four miles farther down stream there was a flock of seventeen. These were well spread out on the water and watched us rather suspiciously. There was much diving and reappearing after many seconds at a point often two hundred feet away from where they had dived. At times they drew their feathers together and floated with only their necks or heads above water. But soon we had gone down the river, leaving them in peace.

Slightly below New Amsterdam, Indiana, we saw another flock of about thirty Loons. As we approached, they swam from near the Kentucky side towards the Indiana shore. From time to time one would give a short, rather musical, call or warning signal. This is very different from the laughing noise or the wild, unearthly shriek the species sometimes makes. Their loonships evidently liked our looks, for first in twos and threes and then in greater numbers they flew on uptream while we paddled down.

About two miles farther down, where the river starts to make a bend, we saw many birds on the water and on approaching closer counted forty-seven. They seemed to be at rest as we approached them slowly. They soon saw us and paddled rapidly toward the Indiana shore and then took flight.

It might be well to pause here to tell about their flight. On the water the Loon normally floats rather high and has a sort of hump-backed look. The wings are not particularly large for the size of the bird. To start flying, the bird must skim or taxi over the surface of the water to gain enough momentum. If a strong wind is blowing, this is not necessary. To get this speed, Loons beat their wings very rapidly and at the same time vigorously swim. As they gain speed, their bodies rise off the water, but they still use their webbed feet in a sort of running on the water. After a flying run of two hundred feet, they get into the air. Full flight is swift, and the wing-beats are fast.

Even though we were over a quarter of a mile away from them, the sound of their beating wings was quite loud, much like the sound of a snare drum with a loose head. To top it all, there were high, steep cliffs to echo and reecho this drumming. This loud noise occurred only at first; it was probably caused by the wings actually striking the water.

It is strange that all the flocks flew upstream. There was almost no current or wind at the time.

We had about three more miles to go and saw about twenty Loons, mostly a few at a time. In all there were close to a hundred and twenty, which is far more than I had ever seen before in one day. My previous record was fifty-eight in one flock near Louisville several years ago.

It was really a grand day, but to prove that all Loons do not wear feathers, I must tell you that, as we landed, three men spied a few of the Loons on the water and said they were Mallards.

—FLOYD S. CARPENTER, Louisville.

1941 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

	Paducah	Marion	Bowling Green	Glasgow	Otter Creek	Louisville	Anchorage	Lexington	Cynthiana	John's Run
1. Loon						3	3			
2. Great Blue Heron			x				1			
3. Mallard						1	34			
4. Black Duck					5	40	312			
5. Pintail							1			
6. Lesser Scaup						25	114			
7. Golden-eye							52			
8. Bufflehead							8			
9. Old Squaw							7			
10. Hooded Merganser							7			
11. American Merganser							12			
12. Turkey Vulture			2	2		x		11	x	
13. Black Vulture		1				4	6	4		
14. Sharp-shinned Hawk		1		1						
15. Cooper's Hawk			2		1		2			
16. Red-Tailed Hawk			4	3			2			x
17. Red-shouldered Hawk			2			2	2			
18. Rough-legged Hawk			1							
19. Marsh Hawk		1	x			2	2			
20. Duck Hawk						1				
21. Pigeon Hawk						1				
22. Sparrow Hawk	1	5	5	2			29	4	x	
23. Ruffed Grouse										x
24. Bob-white	1	22	8	26			8			
25. Coot							2			
26. Killdeer			8	x		15	9		3	
27. Wilson's Snipe	1									
28. Woodcock						1				
29. Herring Gull	15					29	500			
30. Ring-billed Gull						10	23			
31. Mourning Dove		4	235	87		1	49		2	
32. Screech Owl					1					
33. Great Horned Owl			1							
34. Barred Owl			1			x	1			
35. Belted Kingfisher	1		5			2	3			
36. Flicker			38	14	2	23	19	2	6	
37. Pileated Woodpecker		4	13	10						
38. Red-bellied Woodpecker		1	21	6	7	18	11	1	x	
39. Red-headed Woodpecker			4			2	1			
40. Yellow-b. Sapsucker			7	2		2			1	
41. Hairy Woodpecker		1	7	3		6	6	1	x	3
42. Downy Woodpecker	2	8	30	17	12	26	19	3	6	1
43. Prairie Horned Lark			166	x		9	125	15		
44. Blue Jay			23	3	8	73	27			

		Paducah	Marion	Bowling Green	Glasgow	Otter Creek	Louisville	Anchorage	Lexington	Cynthiana	John's Run
45.	Crow	4	41	242	46	28	207	187	6000	500	9
46.	Carolina Chickadee	10	16	134	16	24	73	81	15	55	23
47.	Tufted Titmouse	5	16	109	28	18	64	117	9	18	19
48.	White-br. Nuthatch			6	2	8	12	12			x
49.	Brown Creeper	1		2			2	3		x	
50.	Winter Wren			10	1		2				x
51.	Bewick's Wren		3	2							
52.	Long-b. Marsh Wren		1								
53.	Carolina Wren		4	34	9	1	8	6	1	5	13
54.	Mockingbird	2	8	29	1	2	45	14	3	3	
55.	Robin	1	28	13		x	46	135	107	22	
56.	Hermit Thrush			5		2	x	1			
57.	Bluebird	1	40	117	10	18	35	43		15	1
58.	Golden-cr. Kinglet			6		2	2	1			
59.	Cedar Waxwing		26	96	10	24	15	54		48	19
60.	Migrant Shrike		3	3			4	1			
61.	Starling	100	400	925	x		21089	3500	600	80	x
62.	Myrtle Warbler			38	2	18				1	
63.	English Sparrow	76	x	195	x	20	350	250	25	25	39
64.	Meadowlark	5	18	79	1		43	11			
65.	Bronzed Grackle			2			1	7			
66.	Cowbird		4	14							
67.	Cardinal	12	31	135	40	30	150	247	6	10	23
68.	Purple Finch		3	6	x		5	9			
69.	Pine Siskin							3			
70.	Goldfinch		11	55	17	16	38	56		4	25
71.	Red-eyed Towhee	1	23	33	11	6	20	26			5
72.	Savannah Sparrow			x							
73.	Slate-colored Junco	8	300	220	33	32	218	225	12	31	46
74.	Tree Sparrow	5	2	x		30	60	275		4	x
75.	Field Sparrow	4	12	3	12	1	1	1			8
76.	White-cr. Sparrow		14	93	4		8	13		x	
77.	White-thr. Sparrow	2	1	112	3	10	18	64		x	
78.	Fox Sparrow		1	6	2	5	1	3			
79.	Swamp Sparrow		6	37	3		3	7			
80.	Song Sparrow	10	4	53	4	10	31	94		5	14

(The letter x means that the species was not recorded on the census but was seen during the Christmas holidays).

PADUCAH: Dec. 31: 12:40 to dark. Barkley Park, past Brookport Bridge, past north of flood wall, up Parkins Creek, back by Hook's Park and Incinerator Slough. Slightly cloudy; temp. 54. Total, 23 species, 276 individuals.

—A. L. PICKENS, Paducah Junior College.

MARION: Dec. 25. Crittenden County. Light wind; raining; temp. 50. Observers together. Total 38 species, 1096 individuals.

—CHASTAIN FRAZER AND DR. T. ATCHISON FRAZER.

BOWLING GREEN: Dec. 21: 7:00 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. Lost River, Chaney Marsh, along Drake's and Jennings Creeks and Barren River, Mouth of Gasper River. Partly cloudy; no wind; temp. 32-58. Seven observers in three groups; 30 miles on foot, 4 miles in canoe, 30 miles by car; 26¾ party hours. Total, 53 species, 3397 individuals.

—GORDON WILSON, (compiler).

GLASGOW: Dec. 21; 7:30 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Camp Rotary and vicinity, along Skeggs Creek, including Crenshaw, Nuckols, Smith, Wilkinson, and part of Elliott Farms. Clear and bright in morning, slightly overcast in afternoon; wind, southwest, light in morning, heavier in afternoon; temp. 30-48. Observers together, on foot, within a diameter of six miles. Total, 34 species, 431 individuals. (Species marked x were recorded the same week by Russell Starr near Glasgow, Ed.)

—F. EVERETT FREI, (compiler), Mrs. F. Everett Frei, Clayton Gooden, Mrs. Nelson Nuckols, H. C. Rogers, (Members of Glasgow Bird Club).

OTTER CREEK: Dec. 28; 9:30 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. Along the Ohio River at Rockhaven, along Otter Creek, in the open fields in front of Tall Trees, and adjacent areas. Cloudy, light wind; cold and raw all day. Eight observers for the most part in one party. Total, 7 hours, 8 miles on foot, 28 species, 341 individuals. A large flock of Robins seen the day before.

—HARVEY LOVELL, (compiler), Amy Deane, David Dickstein, Vera Henderson, Dorothy Peil, Helen Peil, S. Charles Thacher, Audrey Wright (Beckham Bird Club).

LOUISVILLE: Dec. 21; 7:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Ohio River from Sixth Street to Twelve Mile Island, inland about ten miles to Jeffersontown, including Cherokee Park and Cave Hill Cemetery, and along Goose and Harrod's Creeks. Clear; very little wind; temp. 30-66. Seventeen observers in nine groups. Total, 48 hours (29 on foot, 19 by car), 114 miles (89 by car, 25 on foot), 53 species, 22,866 individuals. Hermit Thrush, Turkey Vulture, and Barred Owl seen on December 20.

—Leonard C. Brecher, Mary Louise Brecher, Floyd S. Carpenter, William M. Clay, Thelma Gentry, Rhoda Green, Ethel W. Lovell, Harvey B. Lovell, Burt L. Monroe, Kent Previette, Evelyn J. Schneider, Mabel Slack, Dorothy Sternberg, Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Stamm, S. Charles Thacher, Audrey Wright (Beckham Bird Club).

ANCHORAGE: Dec. 27; 6:00 A. M. to 6:30 P. M. Anchorage, Worthington, Goshen, Ohio River, and surrounding area. Cloudy; ground bare; wind west to southwest, light to moderate; temp. 35-44. Five observers working in three parties. Total, 29 hours (24 on foot, 5 by car), 123 miles (14 on foot, 109 by car), 62 species, 6843 individuals.

—Thomas Smith, B. L. Monroe, Jr., James Boswell Young, Robert M. Mengel, Burt L. Monroe (Rafinesque Ornithological Club.)

LEXINGTON: Dec. 21; 9:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Simms and Harris Farms. Clear; no wind; temp. 46-64. Total, 18 species, 6819 individuals.

—Mrs. John Dodge, Mrs. Mary Patterson, Mrs. Charles K. Morrell, Charles K. Morrell, Victor K. Dodge.

CYNTHIANA: Dec. 28; 10:00 A. M. to 3:30 P. M. Old Lair Farm and Brushy Creek Pike. Cloudy all day; light north wind; temp. 40-38. Total, 21 species, 844 individuals.

—John and Bird Mayer.

JOHN'S RUN: Dec. 22; 8:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Clear early, hazy later; temp. 34-58. About seven miles through fields and woodlands. A few days previously I also observed the following species not found on the census: Ruffed Grouse, Red-tailed Hawk, Starling, White-breasted Nuthatch, Winter Wren, and Tree Sparrow.

—ERCEL KOZEE.

* * * * * *

Two short articles pertaining to Kentucky ornithology appeared in the September, 1941, issue of THE WILSON BULLETIN: "Bald Eagle Nesting in Kentucky," by Burt L. Monroe and Robert M. Mengel, and "Unusual Behavior of a Banded Cardinal," by James B. Young. In the December, 1941, issue of the same magazine appeared "A Successful Method of Preventing Starling Roosts," by Harvey Lovell.

An interesting feature of the fall season in Louisville has been the large number of Loons on the Ohio River. It has often been possible to see them at close range from the River Road. On several occasions their wild, weird cries have traveled across the water. See Mr. Carpenter's article in this issue.

The Glasgow Bird Club continues to be one of Kentucky's most active natural history organizations. The new officers are as follows: President, F. Everett Frei; Vice-President, H. Cal Rogers; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Nelson Nuckols; additional members of the Board of Directors: Vincent R. Jones, Mrs. C. C. Howard, and Mrs. W. C. Moss. On November 13 the club was entertained at the Honey-Krust Hostess House in Bowling Green. Dr. Gordon Wilson addressed the club on "Some Emphases in Bird Study."

Our secretary-treasurer reports the following new members: Louisville: Miss Lyda Boyd, Miss Leila De Jarnette, Miss Pauline Gibson, Mrs. Regina Hagan, Mrs. Elizabeth Kinchelow, University of Louisville Library, Miss Beatrice Lusky, Miss Jean Meador, Dr. Austin Middleton, Dr. Harvey Webster; Glasgow: Dr. E. L. Palmore, Mrs. Nelson Nuckols, Mrs. H. C. Rogers; Sulphur Well: King B. Crenshaw; Glenview: Baylor O. Hickman; Leitchfield, Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Moorman; Crestwood, Miss Etta McAllister; Anchorage: Miss Emily Warren; Morehead, Dr. G. B. Pennebaker; Sanford, Maine: Mrs. John H. Lovell.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Publication of the Kentucky Ornithological Society
Issued for the Seasons

Subscription Price..$1.00 Per Year

(Includes membership to state organization and local chapters)

ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

The K. O. S. is offering a five-dollar prize to the member of the Kentucky Junior Academy of Science who will write the best paper on birds. This paper must contain some original observations on some phase of Kentucky ornithology, such as winter feeding or nesting. The Junior Academy has about a thousand members and publishes a journal five times a year. The winning article will appear in THE KENTUCKY WARBLER.

The Beckham Bird Club has held a weekly field trip during the months of November and December in preparation for the Christmas census. These trips occurred on Saturday afternoon, Sunday morning, or Sunday afternoon. More people have participated in the afternoon trips, but more birds were found in the mornings.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER is proud to present its first photograph in this issue. Its publication was made possible through the generosity of Mr. Arthur Unglaub. It is hoped that the publication of photographs will be continued. We already have sufficient contributions for two more pictures and hereby invite our members to submit their best photographs together with short articles.

The University of Louisville is again offering a night class in Ornithology. The K. O. S. members in attendance are Mr. and Mrs. S. Charles Thacher, Miss Dorothy Sternberg, former treasurer of the Beckham Bird Club, and Mrs. Baylor Hickman, a new member of K. O. S.

The K. O. S. has recently appointed an ADVISORY COMMITTEE to aid the executive committee in formulating policies. Among those who have been invited to participate are the following: Roger W. Barbour, Frankfort; Dr. Cynthia Counce, Hopkinsville; Major Victor K. Dodge, Lexington; Dr. T. Atchison Frazer, Marion; A. F. Ganier, Nashville, Tennessee; John H. Mayer, Cynthiana; Dr. A. L. Pickens, Paducah; Miss Mary May Wyman, Louisville; Dr. John B. Loefer, Berea; H. Cal Rogers, Glasgow.

Kentucky was represented at the recent Wilson Club meetings at the University of Illinois by a large delegation. Mr. Leonard Brecher presented an illustrated paper on "Early American Ornithologists," which was highly complimented. Seven new members from Kentucky have recently joined the Wilson Club, according to Miss Mabel Slack, of the Membership Committee of the Wilson Club.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therefore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Mrs. F. Everett Frei, Secretary-Treasurer, 202 Leslie Avenue, Glasgow, Kentucky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in the Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Teachers College, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Spring
1942

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Vol. 18
No. 2

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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Volume XVIII SPRING, 1942 Number 2

OUR ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

By MRS. F. EVERETT FREI

The opening session of the twentieth annual spring meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society was held in the Robert E. Lee Room of the Seelbach Hotel in Louisville on the afternoon of April 16, 1942, with our president, Dr. Harvey B. Lovell presiding. Mrs. F. Everett Frei spoke on "Bracelets for Birds," telling of the experiences she and her husband have had in their work of banding birds, especially Chimney Swifts. Nell Hodge Dishman, assistant curator of the Audubon Memorial Museum, at Henderson, in eloquent and well-chosen words, spoke on a subject dear to her heart: "The John James Audubon Memorial Museum, a Debt Paid the Great Naturalist." Miss Dishman appealed to the K. O. S. to aid in making a much-needed check-list of the birds of the park. With the showing of an interesting and instructive kodachrome film entitled "How Birds Feed Their Young," this session was brought to a close. Mrs. Alice Moore acted as registrar for the afternoon meeting.

On Friday morning, April 17, at eight o'clock, twenty-two bird students met at the entrance of Cave Hill Cemetery for the annual field trip. With Leonard C. Brecher as leader, the party drove through beautiful Cave Hill and on to the River Road, where from 8:30 to 10:00 A. M. the group recorded the following birds: Pied-billed Grebe, 1; Black-crowned Night Heron, 6; Baldpate, 1; Lesser Scaup, 64; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Coot, 2; Spotted Sandpiper, 3; Lesser Yellowlegs, 8; Mourning Dove, 4; Chimney Swift, 6; Flicker, 7; Phoebe, 1; Rough-winged Swallow, 1; Blue Jay, 6; Crow, 3; Carolina Chickadee, 3; Tufted Titmouse, 2; House Wren, 3; Bewick's Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 1; Mockingbird, 1; Brown Thrasher, 6; Robin, 14; Bluebird, 1; Cedar Waxwing, 13; Starling, 11; Warbling Vireo, 3; Yellow Warbler, 2; Myrtle Warbler, 1; Northern Yellow-throat, 3; English Sparrow, 8; Meadowlark, 14; Red-winged Blackbird, 6; Bronzed Grackle, 20; Cowbird, 2; Cardinal, 8; Red-eyed Towhee, 3; Chipping Sparrow, 2; Field Sparrow, 7; White-throated Sparrow, 5; Song Sparrow, 9. Total, 41 species, 263 individuals. Temperature, 66 to 70; weather, hazy at start, with rain at end; no wind.

The following people participated in the hike: Dorothy Sternberg, Helen Browning, Marie Pieper, Evelyn Schneider, Mabel Slack, Mrs. Mayme Boulware, Mrs. Ernest Deats, Mrs. Alice Moore, Mrs. G. W. McCanna and daughter Marjorie, Mrs. Ruth Murrell and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Brecher and daughter Ruth, Harvey

JUN 2

B. Lovell, Mr. Martin, all of Louisville; Mrs. Rosell, Evanston, Illinois; Mrs. Helen Nuckols and Mrs. Everett Frei, Glasgow; and Mr. R. L. Witt, Morganfield.

The luncheon at the Roof Garden of the Brown Hotel was followed by a brief business session, with Dr. Lovell presiding. The members present voted to sponsor the Bird Study programs of the Natural History Recreational Group meetings at Otter Creek and to continue next year the essay contest open to members of the Junior Academy of Science for the best papers on original observations of birds and to publish the winning paper in the WARBLER. The president announced that the judging committee, composed of Misses Evelyn Schneider, Mabel Slack, and Esther Mason, had divided the first prize for 1942 between Warren Sights, Tilghman High School, Paducah, and Christine Kinnaird, Paint Lick High School. A prize of $2.50 was awarded to each of these contestants. A year's membership in the K. O. S. was given for honorable mention to the following: Lena Griffin, Kirksville, and Alex Van Arsdall, Harrodsburg.

Dr. Lovell explained his policy of asking members from different parts of the state to act as an Advisory Committee. Mr. A. F. Ganier is an out-of-state member of this committee. The group was urged to submit bird pictures throughout the year for publication in the WARBLER. These should be sent to Dr. Lovell or to Dr. Wilson, with a short description of where the picture was taken and other pertinent data. Two places were suggested for the 1942 fall meeting, Berea and Henderson. Because of the tire situation, only places accessible by bus or rail can be considered. The possibilities of these places will be investigated, the final decision resting with the Executive Committee. The president called attention to the clever "menu-programs" at each plate, the work of Miss Esther Mason.

The Treasurer's Report follows:

RECEIPTS	
Balance brought forward	$49.11
Money collected from memberships	85.75
Donations for prizes and cuts	8.38
Dividend, Jefferson Savings	5.25
Copy of WARBLER sold	.25
Total Receipts	$148.74

DISBURSEMENTS	
To Selby E. Smith, for printing Fall, 1941, Winter, 1942, issues, and covers for 1942	$56.02
Stamps	6.00
1000 Envelopes for mailing	4.25
Cut for WARBLER	3.38
Membership in Kentucky Conservation Council	2.00
Prizes for essay contest	5.00
Total disbursements	$76.65
Balance on hand, April 17, 1942	$72.09

Between three and four hundred people took advantage of the open meeting Friday afternoon, held at the Roof Garden of the Brown Hotel, with Mabel Slack, vice-president, presiding. "Nineteen Years of Progress in Kentucky Ornithology through the K. O. S." was presented by Harvey B. Lovell, presidlent, and Gordon Wilson, founder. This history of our organization from its inception in 1923 with three founders—Dr. L. Otley Pindar, Brasher C. Bacon, and Gordon Wilson—; its steady progress through the years; its aims, ideals, and constructive work were revealed successfully by the two participants' interviewing each other in the question-and-answer style made so popular by radio. Karl Maslowski, eminent photographer and lecturer, of Cincinnati, Ohio, for sixty-five enchanted minutes held the attention of the audience. His excellent color motion pictures of fish, birds, and animals in their natural habitats from the Dry Tortugas Islands of Florida to the ice-capped mountains of Oregon were fittingly entitled "From Seashore to Glacier." Mr. Maslowski's comments, salted with wit and humor, added much to the enjoyment of the pictures. All of us felt that the meeting this year was a great success.

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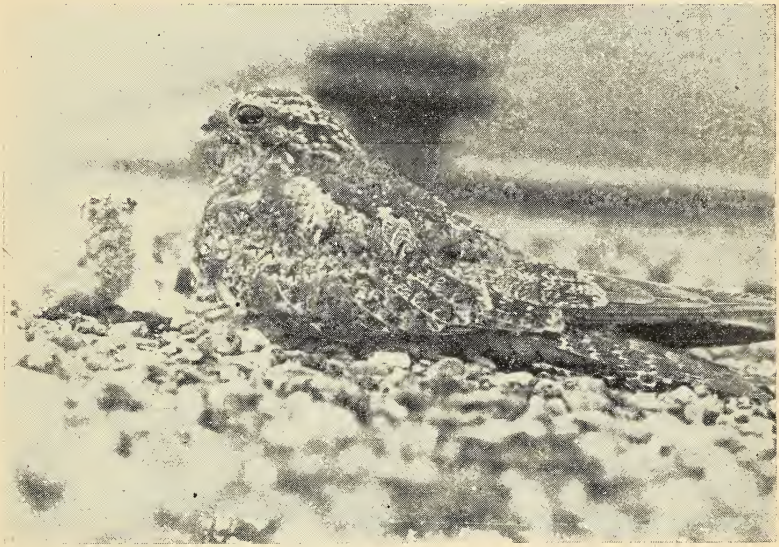

NIGHTHAWK AND DOWNY CHICK
Photo by Mabel Slack

A NIGHTHAWK GOES TO SCHOOL

By MABEL SLACK

On the flat, gravelled roof of the Atherton High School, located in a residential section of the Highlands, in Louisville, Kentucky, two eggs of the Eastern Nighthawk were discovered early in June, 1939, by the janitor of the school. When I had time to climb the ladder and investigate, there were two young instead, which looked like fluffy down powder puffs. As I approached them, the mother feigned a broken wing and opened wide her great crimson-lined mouth, hissing at me all the while like a spitting cat. After planning my method of approach, I disappeared for a few minutes and returned covered with a green cloth bird blind. I lay down on the hot pebble surface about forty feet away and crawled slowly toward the trio, pulling a tripod, a camera, and an exposure meter. The progress was slow and the way rough and uncomfortable; the temperature under the blind increased considerably. As long as I made the necessary movements very slowly and kept entirely under cover, I remained unnoticed by the birds. I finally pulled up so close that I could reach out and touch them.

The plumage of the mother, which at a distance had made her invisible, so closely it blended into the colors of the roof, now stood out in a bold, beautiful, tapestry pattern of black, browns, and buffs. The large, handsome, black, beady eye just in front of me now had been the end of my pursuit. The babies were so completely covered with a buffish down that it was almost impossible to find their eyes, and I wondered whether they had any view of me through the dense fluff.

All pictures had to be made by focusing through ground glass or by very careful measuring, and it was some time later before I was ready to take my first picture. Just at that moment the young became restless and toddled slowly on their poorly developed feet out of reach of the great green object towering over them. The mother followed after them in her awkward manner. Then my pursuit began all over again. This happened more than once before I was successful. One time the babies became uncomfortable in their down coats and moved within the shadow of the chimney. At another time the mother sat asleep brooding her young, and no amount of poking would distract her enough to make her open her eyes.

After several hours spent in this manner, during which time I had secured about a dozen pictures and from every angle, I came out from under the blind without a dry thread on me, with my dress torn, but none the less I was thrilled over my experiences with the Nighthawks. Boldly I picked up the young and placed bands 39-223589 and 39-223590 on their legs while the mother cried loudly. Then I left the family to the peace and quiet of the roof, resolved to hunt them up another year.

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A VISIT TO MOSES POND

By A. F. GANIER

Extensive ponds of a permanent nature are so unusual in southern Kentucky that when I learned of Moses Pond, covering forty acres, I decided to pay it a visit. This pond is in Logan County, eight miles north of Keysburg, Tennessee, which is at the state line. The date chosen for the trip was July 28, 1940, and for company I had Paul Bryant, also of Nashville. On approaching the place, we parked our car by the roadside and, walking several hundred yards through a low, damp woodland, finally came to the water's edge. Our view, however, was screened by a wide border of willows and button bushes; so we pushed on until we finally came to a cleared-out place where, we later learned, duck hunters kept their boats in winter. The pool appeared to be nearly round and was bordered by woods. The entire water's surface was covered with water lily pads, and we later found that only a foot or two of water covered the soft, boggy bottom. A narrow strip of marsh grass lay between the lilies and the button bushes and caused our hopes to rise for finding there a few nests of marsh birds. In this we were disappointed. As we donned our hip boots to explore, a Great Blue Heron sailed over and joined another that fed far out in the pond. A little later we saw two Green Herons feeding near the margin. Two pairs of Red-winged Blackbirds had nests in the button bushes, and a Prothonotary Warbler was observed here. A Red-shouldered Hawk flew heavily about, evidently looking for some luckless frog or snake. As we waded, we scanned the water ahead for possible grebes, coots, gallinules, or bitterns, but apparently the place was not to their liking. A pair of Wood Ducks flushed ahead, and probably there were more, for we waded only about half the area. Along the shore we saw several Acadian Flycatchers and a Louisiana Water-thrush. Including the regular woodland birds, we found a total of forty species. On our return we stopped a half mile south to identify a small sparrow on a fence wire. It turned out to be a Grasshopper Sparrow, and in its beak it held a small worm, doubtless for young in a near-by nest.

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BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER

By FLOYD S. CARPENTER

On Saturday, May 3, 1941, I had spent several hours walking through the wood in Indian Hills, near Louisville, and had almost returned to my car when I saw an interesting looking warbler. It was of striking black, white, and green pattern, but clearly neither a Black and White nor a Blackpoll. The top of the head as well as the throat was solid black. There was a black cheek patch, but clear white areas above and below it. For almost a minute I was able to examine it at a distance of about thirty feet, using my binoculars. Then it flew away, and although I tried to follow it, I lost it. I then looked at the illustration in Peterson's guide, and it was clearly neither the Black and White nor the Blackpoll. It fitted perfectly the description of the Black-throated Gray. On arriving at home I looked at illustrations in several texts (it is not illustrated in Peterson), and found all pictures agreeing with the bird I had seen. While this is a western bird, it occasionally strays to the east and has on a few occasions been found as far east as Massachusetts.

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BREEDING BIRDS OF KENTUCKY—A COMPOSITE LIST

Compiled by GORDON WILSON

In the summer and fall of 1941 I wrote to numerous experienced ornithologists asking for a list of birds known to breed in Kentucky, with the addition of such species as are known to remain through June and July, even though no nests have as yet been found. Thanks to a generous response, the list is a good one, though no one would call it faultless. It has been necessary to edit some of the data collected, especially to interpret seasonal abundance. I have used the term "abundant" to indicate such numbers as those of the English Sparrow or Bronzed Grackle in most areas: "common" means the abundance of such birds as the Cardinal and the Kingbird; "fairly common" correctly designates species like the Sparrow Hawk and the Killdeer; "uncommon" is a safe term for such birds as the Barn Owl; "rare" is used for birds like the Sharp-shinned Hawk, which are found only in certain restricted habitats. In general, I have marked down rather than up. In a few cases it has been necessary to delete species until further data can be supplied; other species have been questioned. It would be much better to err on the side of too few nesting species than too many, especially if no actual nests are reported. In some lists I have added species that I personally know were unintentionally omitted and have given the abundance that I know or that is certain in adjoining areas. This study is decidedly a preliminary list and is to form the basis for a later and more scientific one. All of you who contributed and all other observers can make this list ultimately fool-proof.

Where two races of a species occur within the state, I have followed Dr. Alexander Wetmore's findings as given in his NOTES ON THE BIRDS OF KENTUCKY. These findings were based on a comprehensive collection of birds made throughout the state. In the introduction to this bulletin, issued in 1940, Dr. Wetmore says:

"The State is one of large extent, so that in some cases there has been representation of both eastern and western forms of the same species. Some southern races come in along the southern counties, but in the main Kentucky is north of the area of intergradation of most species having both northern and southern forms. Much work remains to be done on the distribution of birds everywhere through the State."

I shall list below the breeding birds which are represented in Kentucky by two forms:

1. Great Blue and Ward's Herons. The Great Blue is the typical form, with the Ward's supposedly confined to southwestern counties.
2. Eastern and Texas Bobwhites. "The State authorities have imported quail from Mexico for years, and also have brought brood stock from elsewhere in the United States. The present stock of bobwhite is therefore of mixed blood to a high degree."—Wetmore.
3. Northern and Florida Barred Owls. All specimens from Kentucky in the National Museum are of the Northern, but the Florida appears around Reelfoot Lake.
4. Northern and Southern Flickers. The Northern is the typical form, but the Southern appears in Tennessee and around Reelfoot Lake.
5. Northern and Florida Blue Jays. The only specimens of the Florida are from Wayne County, the common form being the Northern.
6. Eastern and Southern Crows. The breeding form is the Eastern, but the Southern is probable on the southern border.
7. Carolina and Northern Carolina Chickadees. The Northern Carolina is the usual form, with the Carolina in the extreme ends of the state.
8. White-breasted and Florida Nuthatches. In general the Florida seems to be the form in the west and south, with the White-breasted elsewhere. Dr. Wetmore says that the nuthatch population is definitely intermediate.
9. Ohio and Western House Wrens. The Ohio is the form in the extreme east, the Western elsewhere.
10. Eastern and Southern Robins. "As most of the robins secured were obtained during the period of migration the status of the breeding birds of Kentucky cannot be definitely outlined."—Wetmore. The Southern "should be the bird that nests along the southern border of Kentucky, but this can be ascertained only by further collecting."
11. Eastern and Southern Meadowlarks. The Eastern is the typical form, with the Southern in the southwest, including Trigg County.

12. Eastern and Mississippi Song Sparrows. "The abundant song sparrow is found throughout the State, all of a long series of specimens belonging to the present species" (Mississippi).—Wetmore.

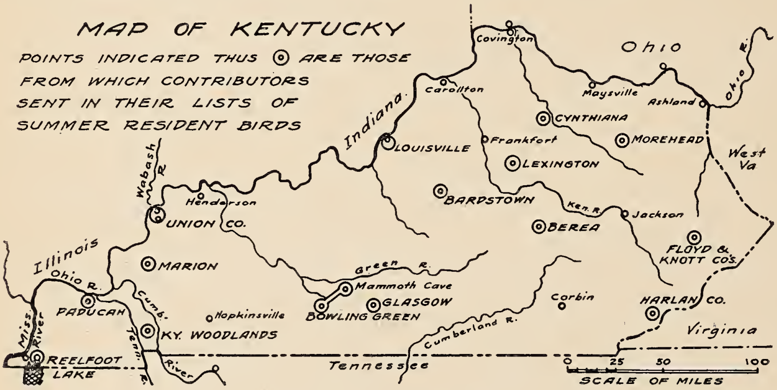
The following people have contributed to this study, either through personal or published lists:

1. Reelfoot Lake—Albert F. Ganier, Nashville, Tennessee, who has made Reelfoot Lake a center for study for many years. His list covers the lake and that part of southwestern Kentucky which adjoins it. Mr. Ganier also checked over the entire study at my request, giving us the benefit of his wide experience in ornithology. He drew the map and donated the cut that illustrates this article.
2. Paducah—Dr. A. L. Pickens, Paducah Junior College. The area covered is the northern and northeastern parts of the Jackson Purchase, including Paducah.
3. Kentucky Woodlands ("Between the Rivers")—Naturalist Eugene Cypert, Golden Pond. This wildlife refuge lies between the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers in Trigg and Lyon Counties, covering more than 50,000 acres formerly owned by the Hillman Land Company and now a national game refuge.
4. Marion—Dr. T. Atchison Frazer. Dr. Frazer's territory is Crittenden County, with parts of Livingston and Hopkins Counties. The Ohio River borders Crittenden on the north.
5. Union County—Robert L. Witt, Morganfield High School, and Engineer H. R. Sales, Dam 49, Uniontown. Just across the Ohio from Union County lies the Hovey Lake region, studied so long and so effectively by the late Samuel E. Perkins, III, Indianapolis, who was for many years a member of the K. O. S.
6. Bowling Green and Mammoth Cave—The editor. Warren County and the Mammoth Cave National Park area are included in this list because they are only some twenty miles apart and have very similar habitats.
7. Glasgow—Mr. and Mrs. F. Everett Frei and H. Cal Rogers. Barren County is the area included.
8. Louisville—Kentucky State Ornithologist Burt L. Monroe. Jefferson County, bordered on the north by the Ohio River, is the region studied.
9. Bardstown—Benedict J. Blincoe, formerly of Bardstown, now of Dayton, Ohio, studied the birds of Nelson County from 1911 to 1921 and revised the study of Charles Wickliffe Beckham, "List of Birds of Nelson County," published by the Kentucky Geological Survey in 1885.
10. Cynthiana—Mrs. John H. Mayer, assisted by Major Victor K. Dodge, Lexington. Harrison County is the area studied.
11. Lexington—Major Victor K. Dodge. The area includes Fayette and adjoining counties, within a fifty mile radius of Lexington.
12. Morehead—Dr. Wilfred A. Welter and Roger W. Barbour. The late Dr. Welter planned this study with me; his list has been brought up to date by one of his former students.
13. Berea—John A. Patten. Mr. Patten, now of Jenkins, compiled all the data accumulated at Berea and added his own,

writing his master's thesis at the University of Kentucky on "Birds of Berea."

14. Floyd and Knott Counties—Humphrey A. Olsen and John A. Patten. Mr. Olsen and Mr. Patten studied birds together at Pippapass, Knott County; Mr. Patten added his list for his home county, Floyd, which adjoins Knott.
15. Harlan County—Roger W. Barbour. Mr. Barbour, of the Kentucky Department of Conservation, Frankfort, spent part of the summer of 1939 collecting in Harlan County, both in the valleys at Ross Point and on the top of Big Black Mountain, the highest point in Kentucky. He has combined his list with the one made the year before by the collecting party sponsored by the United States National Museum.

As you can see by the map every section of the state is represented: the Mountains, the Knobs, the Bluegrass, the Pennyroyal, the Western Coal Fields, and the Jackson Purchase. Though many small subdivisions are not represented, this survey gives a cross section of the whole state.



By A. F. GANIER

For brevity the following symbols are used in the list which follows:

a—Abundant
u—Uncommon
?—Insufficient data
1—Reelfoot only
2—Chiefly on Reelfoot
3—On Mississippi River only
c—Common
r—Rare
x—Abundance, not given
fc—Fairly common
ac—Accidental (not enough times to warrant inclusion)

	BREEDING BIRDS OF KENTUCKY	Reelfoot Lake	Paducah	Woodlands	Marion	Union County	B. G.-Mammoth Cave	Glasgow	Louisville	Bardstown	Lexington	Cynthiana	Morehead	Berea	Floyd-Knott Counties	Harlan County
1	Pied-billed Grebe	r2		r	r		ac		r		r	r				
2	Double-crested Cormorant	cl	r	?		?										
3	Water-Turkey	ul														
4	Great Blue Heron				u	u	ac			?						
5	Ward's Heron	cl	u	u												
6	American Egret	cl	u	u												
7	Little Blue Heron	r														
8	Eastern Green Heron	c	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	?	r
9	Black-crowned Night Heron	rl	u				?		c							
10	Yellow-crowned Night Heron	u2		r	r		?									
11	American Bittern				r						r					
12	Eastern Least Bittern	u2			u				u							
13	Common Mallard	rl					ac									
14	Blue-winged Teal						ac									
15	Wood Duck	c2	fc	fc	fc	fc	u	u	u	?			r			
16	E. Hooded Merganser	r2		r												
17	Turkey Vulture	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	r
18	Black Vulture	fc	r	fc	r	fc	fc	fc	fc	u	r	fc	fc	fc		r
19	Mississippi Kite	r														
20	Sharp-shinned Hawk		r	r	r	r	r	r		fc	r	fc	fc	u	fc	r
21	Cooper's Hawk	u	fc	r	u	fc	r	fc	fc	fc	r	u	fc	u	u	r
22	E. Red-tailed Hawk	u	fc	fc	fc	r	fc	fc	fc	fc	r	fc	fc	u	fc	fc
23	Red-shouldered Hawk	c	fc	fc	fc	r	r	r	fc	r	r	r	r	u	fc	
24	Broad-winged Hawk	u		?	u		r		r				?		?	
25	S. Bald Eagle	ul	r		r	r										
26	Osprey	rl	r	?		r										
27	Duck Hawk	rl														
28	E. Sparrow Hawk	c	fc	?	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc
29	Canada Ruffed Grouse									?	r		fc	r	u	fc
30	E. (Texas) Bobwhite	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	u	c	c
31	Eastern Turkey			fc									r			
32	Ring-necked Pheasant				r	r	r			?	r		r			
33	King Rail	u			?		r		r							
34	Purple Gallinule	r2														
35	Florida Gallinule	ul					ac									
36	American Coot	ul			r	r	ac									
37	Killdeer	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	?	fc
38	American Woodcock	u		r	u	u	r	r	u				r	r		u

		Reelfoot Lake	Paducah	Woodlands	Marion	Union County	B. G.-Mammoth Cave	Glasgow	Louisville	Bardstown	Lexington	Cynthiana	Morehead	Berea	Floyd-Knott Counties	Harlan County
39	Spotted Sandpiper		u	r	u	u	u	u		?		u	?			r
40	Least Tern	fc3	u													
41	E. Mourning Dove	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	fc	c
42	Black-billed Cuckoo		?			?		?		?			c			r
43	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	c	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc
44	Barn Owl	u	u		u	u	r	u	u	r			r	r	r	
45	S. Screech Owl	fc	fc	u	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc
46	Great Horned Owl	fc	u	r	r	u	r	r	u	r	u	u	r	r	r	r
47	N. Barred Owl		fc	fc	r	fc	r	r	fc	?			fc	fc	fc	r
48	Florida Barred Owl	c2														
49	Chuck-will's-widow	fc	fc	fc	fc		fc	fc		r				u		
50	E. Whip-poor-will		r	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc
51	E. Nighthawk	fc	c	c	c	fc	c	fc	c	r	c	c	fc	c	r	r
52	Chimney Swift	c	a	c	a	a	c	c	c	a	c	a	c	a	c	fc
53	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	a	c	c	c	c	fc	fc	fc	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
54	E. Belted Kingfisher	c	c	fc	c	c	r	fc	fc	?	r	fc		u	u	fc
55	Northern Flicker		c	u	fc	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	r	c
56	Southern Flicker	fc														
57	S. Pileated Woodpecker	c2		fc	fc	r	u	u	r	?	r		r	fc	u	fc
58	Red-bellied Woodpecker	c	c	c	c	c	c	fc	fc	c	r	c	r	u		fc
59	E. Red-headed Woodpecker	fc	fc	r	fc	fc	r	fc	c	fc	r	fc	r	fc	r	
60	E. Hairy Woodpecker	fc	fc	u	r	fc	r	fc	fc	fc		fc	r	fc	fc	fc
61	N. Downy Woodpecker	c	c	fc	c	c	c	c	fc	c	c	c	c	c	fc	fc
62	E. Kingbird	u	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	r	u		fc
63	N. Crested Flycatcher	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	?	fc
64	Eastern Phoebe		fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc
65	Acadian Flycatcher	c		fc	fc		fc	fc	fc	fc			fc	fc	fc	?
66	Alder Flycatcher								r							
67	E. Wood Pewee	a	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
68	Prairie Horned Lark	r			u		r		r	r	fc	fc	fc	r		
69	Tree Swallow	r2														
70	Rough-winged Swallow	fc	c	?	c	fc	fc	fc	c	?	c	c	c	u	u	fc
71	Barn Swallow	r	fc	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	r	c		
72	N. Cliff Swallow				r	r	r	r		r	r	fc				
73	Purple Martin	c	c	c	c	c	c	fc	c	c	c	c	fc	c	c	fc
74	N. Blue Jay	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c		c
75	Eastern Crow	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	r
76	Carolina Chickadee	c													c	c

		Reelfoot Lake	Paducah	Woodlands	Marion	Union County	B. G.-Mammoth Cave	Glasgow	Louisville	Bardstown	Lexington	Cynthiana	Morehead	Berea	Floyd-Knott Counties	Harlan County
77	N. Carolina Chickadee		c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c		
78	Tufted Titmouse	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
79	White-breasted Nuthatch		r	fc	fc	fc	r	fc	fc	fc			fc	fc	fc	fc
80	Florida Nuthatch	u														
81	W. House Wren				r	fc			c	?	c	c		r	r	
82	E. Winter Wren															r
83	Bewick's Wren	r	fc	fc	fc		r	fc	c	fc	r	r	c	c	u	
84	Carolina Wren	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	r	c	c	c	c	c
85	Short-billed Marsh Wren				?								r			
86	E. Mockingbird	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	r	c	r	
87	Catbird	u	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
88	E. Brown Thrasher	u	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
89	E. Robin		a	c	a	a	a	c	a	c	a	a	c	c	c	c
90	S. Robin	u														r
90	Wood Thrush	c	c	fc	c	fc	c	c	c	r	c	c	c	a	a	c
92	Veery															c
93	E. Bluebird	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
94	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	a	r	c	fc	fc	c	c	c	a	r		c	c	fc	fc
95	Cedar Waxwing						?		r	?			r			?
96	Migrant Shrike	fc	r	?	fc	r	r	r	fc	?	r	fc	r			
97	Starling	fc	a	c	a	a	a	c	a	c	a	a	c	a	fc	
98	White-eyed Vireo	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	r	c	c	fc	c	c
99	Yellow-throated Vireo	c	r		c		c	c		fc	r	fc	c	fc	fc	c
100	Mountain Vireo															fc
101	Red-eyed Vireo	a	fc	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	a	a	c
102	E. Warbling Vireo	u	fc		fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc			r	r	r	
103	Black and White Warbler	r		u	u		fc	r	u	r			c	c	fc	c
104	Prothonotary Warbler	a	fc	?	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc							
105	Swainson's Warbler	u														
106	Worm-eating Warbler				u		r	r	r	r	r		fc	fc	fc	r
107	Blue-winged Warbler				fc		u	r		fc	r		fc	u		
108	N. Parula Warbler	fc					r			?			r		r	fc
109	E. Yellow Warbler	u			c	fc	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	fc	c	fc
110	Cairns's Warbler															c
111	Bl.-throated Green Warbler												r	u	r	r
112	Cerulean Warbler	c			c		fc	fc	u	c		fc	c	c	fc	r
113	Blackburnian Warbler															r
114	Sycamore Warbler	c	c	r			c	fc		c	r	fc				

		Reelfoot Lake	Paducah	Woodlands	Marion	Union County	B. G.-Mammoth Cave	Glasgow	Louisville	Bardstown	Lexington	Cynthiana	Morehead	Berea	Floyd-Knott Counties	Harlan County
115	Chestnut-sided Warbler															c
116	N. Pine Warbler						?						c	fc		c
117	N. Prairie Warbler	u					fc	fc	fc	fc			c	fc	u	r
118	Oven-bird				r		fc	fc	r	?	r		c	c		r
119	La. Water-Thrush	fc		r	fc		fc	fc	fc	fc	r	fc	fc	fc	fc	r
120	Kentucky Warbler	c		u	c		c	fc	c	c	r	c	c	c	c	c
121	N. Yellow-throat	a	c	c	c	fc	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	a
122	Yellow-breasted Chat	c	c	c	c	fc	c	fc	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
123	Hooded Warbler	c	r				fc	fc	u	?			c	c	c	c
124	Canada Warbler															r
125	American Redstart	c	r	c	r	fc	r	r		r			c	u	c	c
126	English Sparrow	c	a	c	a	a	a	c	a	a	a	a	c	a	c	c
127	E. Meadowlark				c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	fc	fc
128	S. Meadowlark	c	c	c												
129	E. Red-Wing	a2	c	fc	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	fc		
130	Orchard Oriole	u	fc	fc	c	fc	c	fc	fc	c	c	c	fc	fc	fc	r
131	Baltimore Oriole	fc	fc	?	fc	r	fc	fc	u	fc	r	r	fc			
132	Bronzed Grackle	a	a	r	a	c	a	c	c	c	a	a	c			
133	Purple Grackle													fc		r
134	E. Cowbird	fc	fc	u	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	
135	Scarlet Tanager		r	?	fc	fc	fc	r	r		r		fc	fc	fc	fc
136	Summer Tanager	c	fc	c	c	fc	c	r	c	c	r	c	c	c	c	c
137	E. Cardinal	a	a	c	a	c	a	c	a	a	c	a	c	c	c	c
138	Rose-breasted Grosbeak															fc
139	Indigo Bunting	a	a	c	a	c	c	fc	a	a	c	a	c	a	c	a
140	Dickcissel	fc	fc		c	fc	c	c	fc	c	r					
141	E. Goldfinch	fc	fc	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	r	c	c	c	c	c
142	Red-eyed Towhee	r	c	c	c	fc	c	c	c	c	r	c	c	c	c	c
143	E. Grasshopper Sparrow		c	?	c	fc	c	c	fc	c	r	r	c	fc		
144	E. Vesper Sparrow									?	r	r				
145	E. Lark Sparrow				fc		r		r	fc	r	r		u		
146	Bachman's Sparrow	u					fc	fc	fc	fc				fc		
147	Carolina Junco															a
148	E. Chipping Sparrow	fc	c	c	c	fc	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
149	E. Field Sparrow	fc	c	c	c	c	c	fc	c	c	c	c	fc	c	c	c
150	Miss. Song Sparrow		fc		fc	fc		?	c	fc	r	c	c	fc	c	c

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THE WINTER SEASON IN THE LOUISVILLE AREA

By HARVEY S. LOVELL

The drought is still with us. According to the Weather Bureau there was a shortage of rain amounting to 2.42 inches during the first two and a half months of 1942. Louisville is short 48.12 inches during the last twelve years, and the water table has lowered until ponds and small streams dry up frequently. This will result eventually in a serious reduction of aquatic and semi-aquatic bird life.

Although the 1941-42 winter was exceptionally cold, the Ohio River did not freeze over. For several weeks, however, it was filled with floating ice. A number of species of ducks wintered in the large open space above Twelve Mile Island. Here we saw on numerous occasions such species as the Lesser Scaup, Golden-eye, White-winged Scoter, Canvas-back, Old-squaw, Pintail, Bufflehead, Black Duck, Mallard, and American Merganser.

Ring-billed Gulls were unusually numerous this winter. On December 18 I counted twenty-eight between the two bridges. Their manner of flight is quite characteristic. They usually fly down and pick up their food from the water without alighting. Sometimes they alight momentarily, holding their wings wide spread above the body, and then, after having investigated the floating bits to their satisfaction, they take off without ever having folded their wings. A pure-white gull, seen on several occasions by Floyd Carpenter and others, about which there is an item in the next issue, must have been the Glaucous. Finding this unusual gull indicates that we must be on the alert for other species in this group.

Snow covered the ground to a depth of four inches for a week, but not long enough to hurt or frighten south our winter land birds. A large crop of hackberries, hawthorn, dogwood, poison ivy, sumac, greenbrier, and other favorite winter berries accounted for the large number of Robins and Cedar Waxwings which wintered here. On a cold, snowy day in January I discovered a large hackberry tree in which a noisy flock of Robins and more sedate Cedar Waxwings and Purple Finches were feeding. They furnished an interesting contrast in table manners. The clumsy Robins seized the sweet berries in blundering leaps, whereas the dainty Waxwings hovered momentarily in the air while plucking the fruits. On a Washington hawthorn one snowy afternoon in Cave Hill Cemetery I counted nineteen Cardinals feeding on the red berries, while four more picked up some of the fruits that had been scattered in the snow beneath.

Pileated Woodpeckers have been seen several times this winter in Iroquois Park, within the city limits, by Esther Mason. This is the third consecutive year that this large bird has lived so close to town. Evidently it is able to survive human competition much better than the ill-fated Ivory-billed Woodpecker. Red-headed Woodpeckers were again rare in this area, but two pairs wintered in the large beech trees near the mouth of Harrod's Creek.

We added another species to the bird fauna of Louisville when several Horned Larks selected the golf links of Seneca Park as their feeding grounds.

Another feature of our winter season was the appearance of an eagle along the Ohio near the mouth of Goose Creek. It was identified by Evelyn Schneider and others as an immature Bald Eagle. It remained in the vicinity for two or three weeks.

Many of the smaller winter birds have been very common, especially the following: Tree Sparrow, Junco, Meadowlark, Bluebird, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, Goldfinch, Towhee, and Carolina Wren.

The Carolina Wren population was badly depleted by the cold, snowy winter of four years ago, but the birds have been gradually making a comeback. Their full-throated song again rang from every favorable spot, including my back yard.

A flock of White-crowned Sparrows wintered in my neighborhood in Jefferson County for the fourth consecutive winter. I obtained my greatest thrill of the year when I proved that it was the same flock back from their far-northern nesting grounds. Of five White-crowns which I banded a year ago three re-entered my traps this winter.

The greatest rarity of the winter season was discovered by Burt Monroe. A flock of those erratic wanderers, the Pine Siskins, selected his yard in Anchorage as a feeding ground during January.

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ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

Burt Monroe was elected to the Executive Council of the Wilson Ornithological Club at the recent meetings of the club at the University of Illinois.

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The K. O. S. helped to save from extinction the rare Trumpeter Swan. The Army had planned a winter testing ground on Henry's Lake in Yellowstone National Park, but the protest raised by ornithologists over the country caused the War Department to change the location of this range. The Trumpeter Swan population in the United States has increased from only 35 to 211 during the last eight years.

The K. O. S. Library, which is under the care of our former president, Evelyn Schneider, is growing steadily. Anyone having extra books or papers on birds should send them to her. Any member of the K. O. S. can borrow these publications by paying the cost of postage.

A very worth-while study of quail is being made by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Game. What happens to the home-raised quail that are being released by the thousands each spring? Do these tame, hand-fed quail learn to avoid their enemies? Do they mate and raise a covey? Many ecologists maintain that better results would be obtained by spending the same amount upon improving winter food and cover. These questions and others will be answered by research in this field.

Through the influence of Colonel Lucien Beckner, Mrs. J. C. W. Beckham has presented the ornithological library of her late husband to the Beckham Bird Club. Several rare and interesting volumes are included.

It was discovered that the Park Police in Louisville have been breaking the law by shooting Barred Owls in the city parks. When Burt Monroe called the attention of the city administration to this law violation, they agreed to instruct their policemen to refrain from shooting the owls.

The annual membership list will appear in our next issue. Be sure that your dues are paid and that your address is correct.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Publication of the Kentucky Ornithological Society
Issued for the Seasons

Subscription Price..$1.00 Per Yea

(Includes membership to state organization and local chapters)

New members of the K. O. S. not listed in our last issue are the following: Louisville—Mrs. Anna Armstrong, Mrs. Mayme Boulware, Helen Browning, Dr. Arch Cole, Jean Coates, Rhoda Green, Sue M. Hall, Alice Horneman, Elizabeth Mittlebeeler, Sarah Virginia Rose, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Zimmer, Arthur Unglaub, Mrs. R. W. McCanna, Mariner's Club; Shelbyville—Mrs. Fred Mathis; Bagdad—Ruth Johnson; Jenkins—John A. Patten; West Point—F. H. Bunce; Glasgow—Clyton Gooden, J. D. DeWeese; Harrodsburg—Alex Van Arsdall; Kirksville—Lena Griffin; Lexington—Hollis J. Rogers; Danville—Ephraim McDowell Science Club; New Albany, Indiana—Frances Windstanley; Evansville, Indiana—Mrs. Walter D. Short; Indianapolis, Indiana—Palmer Davis Skaar. The following have renewed their affiliation: Louisville—Mrs. Alice Thierman Deats; New Haven—Martina Mouser; Lexington—Dr. Gladys Smithwick and Isabel Clay; Ashland—Nancy Miller; John's Run—Ercel Kozee.

The Glasgow Bird Club is now a chapter of the K. O. S.

Clayton Gooden, one of Glasgow's most active and enthusiastic bird students, is now employed in Louisville, under Civil Service.

Everett and Mary Lou Frei banded a representative group of Chimney Swifts, 230, and captured 81 already banded on Sunday morning, April 26, at the Graded School Building in Glasgow. They were assisted in this work by these members of the local bird club: Mrs. Nelson Nuckols, Leonard Rogers, Kenneth Pace, Robert Lee Jolly, and Woody Woodruff.

Here are the people of our Student Membership Group in Louisville: Bernard Weiss, Seymour Ribot, Joseph Noshpitz, Betsy Boyer Short, Shirley Weindl, Kenneth Stinnett, Laura Draper, Gene Pierce, Frances Thomason, George G. McKinley, Grace Levitan, Margaret Schalk.

* * *

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therefore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Mrs. F. Everett Frei, Secretary-Treasurer, 202 Leslie Avenue, Glasgow, Kentucky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in the Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Teachers College, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

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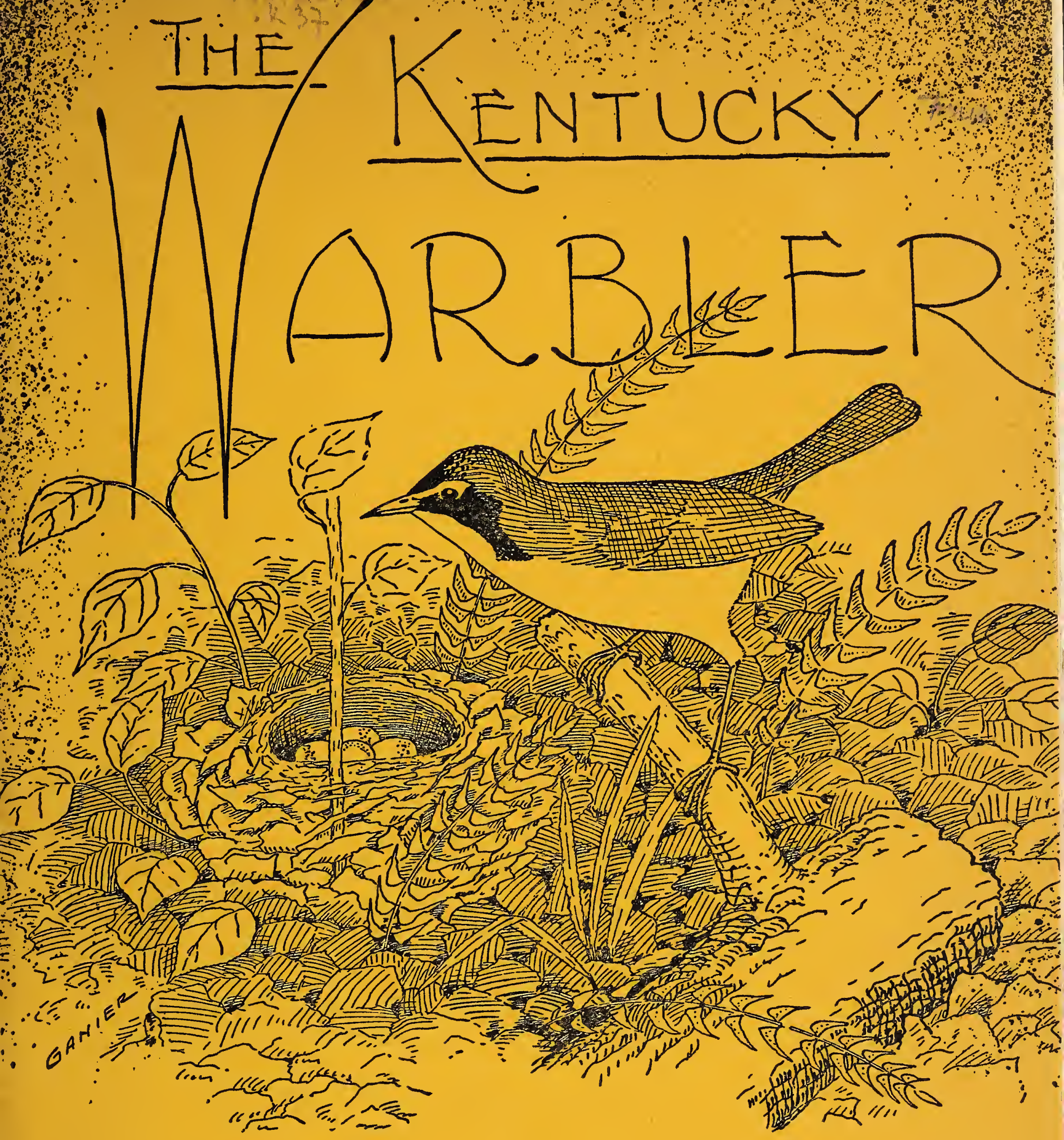
THE KENTUCKY WARBLER



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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

VOL. XVIII SUMMER, 1942 NO. 3

THE NESTING OF THE STARLING IN KENTUCKY

By HARVEY B. LOVELL, University of Louisville

I. Early Nesting Records:

Nearly every hollow tree, old telephone pole, or open attic in Louisville is occupied by one or more pairs of Starlings (**Sternus vulgaris**). Although they have been definitely known to nest in Kentucky only fourteen summers, they have rapidly become one of our most common birds, at least near our larger cities.

Although the Starling was reported from several places in Kentucky in 1920, 1925, and 1926 by various observers, the first nesting record was furnished me by Dr. T. Atchison Frazer, who discovered a pair nesting in a tree cavity in Marion in 1928. Burt Monroe found the first nest near Louisville in the spring of 1929. In the southern part of the state Gordon Wilson reports that he discovered his first Starling nest in Kentucky in a hollow tree on the Davenport farm, three miles west of Bowling Green, on May 3, 1930.

The Kentucky records seem rather late when compared with the Tennessee records of A. F. Ganier, who found a nest in Bristol, in the extreme northeastern part of Tennessee, on May 24, 1925, and ten or more nests in and around Knoxville (**Wilson Bulletin**, Vol. 37 174). Leonard Trenholm saw Starlings carrying nesting materials in May, 1926, near Sparta, Tennesee (**Bird-Lore**, Vol. 29). Even Ganier's Nashville record of April 27, 1928, of Starlings nesting in old Flicker holes in western Tennessee is as early as our first Kentucky record (**Wilson Bulletin**, Vol. 40).

How shall we explain this discontinuity in nesting range? Did the Kentuckians overlook the Starling nest for several years, or did the Starling really nest in Tennessee before it did in Kentucky? Here is a possible explanation for the earlier appearance of the Starlings in the South. Starlings flock with Grackles and other blackbirds, which have large winter roosts in Tennessee but rarely spend the winter in Kentucky. Harry Monk observed 300 Starlings in a Grackle roost in Nashville as early as December, 1921, and on December 8, 1923, Ganier placed the number of Starlings roosting with blackbirds in a cemetery at Nashville at the colossal figure of 60,000. The Starlings were carried clear across Kentucky by the migrating flocks of blackbirds to their winter roost in Tennessee. When spring came, a few pairs remained in holes which they had discovered during the winter, and the rest returned to the vicinity of their birthplaces in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and, possibly, New York State.

JUN 9 '44

II. The Effect of the Starling on the Nesting of Our Native Birds:

When a new species enters a region, its relation to the biota already established immediately becomes a matter of great importance. To what extent has the Starling upset the balance of bird life in Kentucky? Two of the chief ways in which other birds are affected are competition for food and competition for nesting sites. Only the latter point will be considered in this paper. The Starling comes into competition chiefly with the hole-nesting species, such as woodpeckers, bluebirds, wrens, and English sparrows, and, to a lesser extent, with chickadees, nuthatches, titmice, and crested flycatchers. The wrens occupy holes too small for Starlings and do not appear to have suffered to any extent. Bluebirds suffer so severely from the ravages of English sparrows that it is difficult to determine to what extent they are affected by Starlings. Bluebirds can occupy holes too small for Starlings, but indirectly they probably are being affected by the scarcity of proper holes.

Woodpeckers seem to be the bird species upon which the brunt of Starling competition for nesting sites has fallen. A distinct decrease in nearly all our nesting woodpeckers has been noted in Kentucky in recent years. To what extent this is due to the Starling and to what extent to the cutting of the forest, pruning out dead branches in the neighborhood of cities, highway accidents, and other causes is, of course, impossible to determine.

Because of their living near cities, Flickers have often been reported in fights with Starlings. Dr. Frazer, of Marion, observed a pair of Flikers, dispossessed by Starlings, which removed the five eggs. For five days the Flickers hung around while the Starlings occupied their hole. Then the Flickers tackled the Starlings and with feathers flying pulled them from the hole and reoccupied the nest. Burt Monroe reported that a Red-bellied Woodpecker was driven from its hole near Louisville in spite of his attempt to protect it by shooting seven Starlings. Rogers, of Glasgow, killed fifty Starlings in 1940 in a successful effort to protect the nest of a Crested Flycatcher. Similar reports from various parts of the state indicate that woodpeckers have a difficult time nesting until all the Starlings in the vicinity have been supplied with nesting sites. Luckily, woodpeckers can drill new holes and eventually succeed in establishing a nesting place.

The Red-headed Woodpecker has become quite rare both as a breeding bird and as a winter visitant in Kentucky in the last ten years. Starlings are certainly playing some role and perhaps the leading one in this decrease of our most beautiful woodpecker. Red-headed Woodpeckers are killed by fast-speeding cars more frequently in Kentucky than any other large bird, and this may be an important factor in their decrease. If so, the wartime restrictions on speed and tires may help restore the species to its former abundance.

A Robin built her nest in a cherry tree within fifteen feet of a Starling's nest in my attic this spring and raised her brood successfully. I saw no evidence of any desire on the part of the Starlings to molest the Robins. On numerous occasions, however, I saw the Robins attack the Starlings and drive them from the vicinity of the cherry tree, and the Starlings went without putting up any sort of fight.

III. Life History of a Starling Brood:

On April 7, 1941, a pair of Starlings were discovered entering the side ventilator of my home in Jefferson County. Concealed in the shadows, I observed the activities of the nest builders on April 10. Both birds aided in the construction, as shown by the fact that they often came together. After placing a piece of straw on the side of the nest, a Starling would sit down in the center and squirm around until the nest was properly shaped. I timed one trip after more material at 49 seconds, but other trips lasted from one to several minutes. Whenever the birds came in through the ventilator, they uttered a special "scrutch" note as if pleased to be back again. The finished nest was a great pile of straw, six inches thick and about a foot wide. It really consisted of a series of nests built one on top of another for several years. There was a hole in the center about three inches deep which was lined with feathers. When the parent sat down, she was hidden almost completely, just the top of the head appearing when she stretched her neck.

I did not observe the exact date of egg-laying of this particular brood, but it probably occurred from the twelfth to the sixteenth of April. The four eggs were pale blue and entirely devoid of spots. One end was considerably larger than the other, so that the eggs tend to roll in a circle. The average weight of the set of four eggs taken soon after laying was 7.5 grams, whereas the weight of egg No. 4 just before hatching was only 6.2 grams. The average size of several eggs was 3.1 mm. long by 2.2 mm. broad.

Hatching occurred on consecutive days; the first egg probably hatched on April 28; the second was observed to hatch on April 29, the third on April 30, and the fourth on May 1. The young are born helpless and naked except for a fine down on the wings, top of head, middle of back, and sides of body. Their eyes are closed, and when disturbed, they stretch their rubber-like necks up and up, and open their tremendous mouths in a typical feeding reaction. They maintained this position for several seconds or even a minute by bracing their feet, and then they would suddenly collapse in a heap. Their yellow bills and orange throats make a brilliant color combination, which probably aids the parents in placing food in the right place in the dark. The young birds showed no signs of fear and snuggled down in my hand or clung to my fingers when I was weighing and measuring them.

As shown in Table I, daily weights were taken until after the birds left the nest. The increase in weight was rapid and fairly regular for the first ten to twelve days, at which time the nestlings weighed as much as adults. One parent was captured and weighed 75 grams, 2 less than the weight of No. 1 when thirteen days old. After twelve days the weights fluctuated. The increased activity and rapid growth of their feathers probably used up some of the stored fat. On May 1, Starling No. 1 weighed nearly three times as much as the newly hatched No. 4. On the next day No. 1 had gained 6.5 grams, now weighing 26.9 grams, whereas No. 4 had gained only 2 grams, to weigh 9:8 grams. It is difficult to see how this backward individual succeeded in getting any food in competition with its ravenous and much larger companions, but two days later it had nearly tripled its weight, and on May 12 it was next to the heaviest of the brood.

As early as May 2 the young Starlings crawled around vigorously, using their wings as well as their legs. Their round, protuberant bellies supported their weight most of the time. The eyes began to open on the fifth day, and by the seventh day the nestlings began to take notice of their surroundings.

On May 8 the oldest bird climbed out of a basket with two-inch sides and crawled around the floor rapidly, but it was not until it was twelve days old that it really showed fear and attempted to escape. When fourteen days old, it jumped out of the basket and took flying hops across the room and hid behind a shelf. For the first time my hand failed to invoke the feeding reflex. No. 2 had climbed out of the nest on May 12 and had evidently not been fed properly, judging by its loss of weight (see Table I).

TABLE I. WEIGHTS OF NESTLING STARLINGS

Date	Apr. 29	30	M'y 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	17
No. 1	hat.	14.9	20.5	26.9	35.1	42.4	49.7	57.7	62.3	68.0	71.5	75.5	77.0	75.3	72.9	67.6	55.0
No. 2	hat.	12.7	18.0	24.6	31.4	37.7	42.2	51.2	59.5	65.1	69.0	71.1	75.3	66.2	64.0	64.5	
No. 3	egg	8.5	11.3	16.0	20.5	28.8	36.7	46.3	54.1	59.0	64.2	68.3	71.1	70.7	69.7	64.5	75.3
No. 4	egg	egg	7.8	9.8	16.0	23.2	30.0	37.9	47.1	53.5	61.1	66.5	72.9	70.9	68.0		71.8

TABLE II. GROWTH OF PRIMARY WING FEATHERS, REMIGES

MAY	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	17
No. 1	1.5	8	11	18	26	30	37	42	48	50	58	62
No. 2	....	5	10	16	22	29	34	40	45	48	53	....
No. 3	....	2	6	10	15	22	28	35	42	42	52	58
No. 4	....	....	2.	5	10	16	22	27	36	40	....	57

TABLE III. GROWTH OF TAIL FEATHERS, RECTRICES

MAY	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	17
No. 1	2	3	8	9	15	20	25	28	35	37	40
No. 2	1	2.5	5	9	12	17	23	25	34	36	....
No. 3	....	2	4	7	10	13	18	24	33	35	40
No. 4	....	....	1	4	7	11	15	18	25	....	40

On May 13 all the birds had left the nest and were running around in the attic. This was at an age of twelve to fifteen days. Their loud hunger calls came from various parts of the attic, and they immediately became silent when I flashed a light.

On May 14 all four birds were very active, and their loud hunger calls could easily be heard in the rooms below. After considerable search I succeeded in catching three. The oldest was able to fly ten feet when given a little start.

I made one last attempt to catch the brood on May 17 and at first found only two. A persistent noise in the wall on the second floor was investigated and after a hole had been made in the partition, No. 1 was liberated. Although it had lost 22 grams, it was very lively and able to fly quite well. The birds left the attic the next day, eighteen to twenty-one days after hatching.

The rate of growth of the primary wing feathers is shown in Table II. The feathers first appeared on the fifth day. After that, growth was fairly regular throughout the period of development, the average increase in length being 4.5 mm. per day. After nineteen days their length was 62 mm., which compares very closely with 68 mm. for adults. The vane of the feathers began to emerge from the feather sheath on the eleventh day, at which time the sheath was 22 mm. and the vane only 8 mm. long. By the fourteenth day the vane had expanded to 33 mm. as compared with 15 mm. for the sheath. On the nineteenth the vane was 46 mm. and the sheath only 12 mm. long.

The development of the larger tail feathers is shown in Table III. They appeared for the first time six to seven days after hatching. Their growth rate was slower than that of the wing feathers, being about 3.3 mm. per day. On the nineteenth day the tail feathers were only 40 mm. long as compared with a length of 62 mm. for the adult. When the juveniles left the attic, their wing-feathers were more nearly developed than their tail feathers.

Changes in the proportions of the bills of the nestlings were very striking. The first measurements made on the fourth day revealed that the bill was as broad as long, namely 23 mm. by 23 mm. It lengthened gradually, and six days later it was 21 mm. wide at the base by 27 mm. long. At the end of the period of observation the bill was 16 mm. by 29 mm. The bill was still not quite mature, as measurements of an adult were 15 mm. by 34 mm. The egg tooth on the tip of the upper mandible persisted through the nestling period.

A set of six eggs was laid in the same nest from May 21 to 26, 1942 (see photograph). Shortly after this there was an extremely hot period, which apparently was the cause of the death of the embryos. Although the eggs did not hatch, the parents continued to incubate them until June 17, about fifteen days after the first egg should have hatched.

NEST OF STARLINGS IN ATTIC OF HARVEY B. LOVELL

Kalmback states (**Farmers Bulletin** No. 1571) that Starlings have two and sometimes three broods per season. Lawrence Hicks (in a personal communication) stated positively that Starlings have only one brood per season. I regret that I did not obtain any data on this question. Both seasons a second set of eggs has been laid in the same nest in my attic within ten days to two weeks after the first brood has left. However, I do not know whether they are the same Starlings or another pair which had waited until then for a suitable nesting site.

IV. Summary:

Starlings have nested in Kentucky for the last fourteen years, and an explanation is attempted of the fact that they nested in Tennessee earlier than in Kentucky. They have an injurious effect on many hole-nesting species, especially woodpeckers, but do not ordinarily molest other species. A detailed study of the growth and development of a brood of Starlings is described. A daily record of their increase in weight and the growth of their wing and tail feathers is presented in tabular form. The change in the shape of the bill is described. Observations on the appearance of fear, the first flight, the leaving of the nest, and later the attic, complete the life-history study.

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LIFE ZONES AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF BIRDS

By A. L. PICKENS

Perhaps nowhere else will we find the Louisianian or Austroriparian and the Carolinian or Upper Austral life zones brought together in such contrast as is afforded by the almost sudden uplift of part of the southern Appalachians from the adjacent lowlands. There valley and mountain-height camps afford interesting contrasts in censuses. Such indicate key-birds for the determination of life-zones. A few birds are noted on the heights that do not occur in the valleys. More are stopped by the boundary of the valleys and foothills with the adjacent Piedmont peneplain, indicating gradually fading Carolinian conditions. Incidentally a number found in the Piedmont do not reach the mountains, an indication of the vanishing Louisianian zone. The 96 birds of such a general area may be divided into five groups, as follows:

1. **Mountain-Height Birds:** Black-throated Green Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Spotted Sandpiper, Wild Turkey, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, and Raven were reported. The Spotted Sandpiper and the Turkey are scattering, the next accidental, but the last offers possible diagnostic value in biogeography.

2. **Mountain-Height Birds Occurring Also in Valleys Adjacent:** Ruffed Grouse, Whip-poor-will, Phoebe, Cedar Waxwing, Mountain Vireo, Parula Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Goldfinch, Song Sparrow. Dr. L. M. Loomis as a youth appears to have seen and recorded Worm-eating Warblers "from top to bottom." (AUK, Vols. VII and VIII).

3. **Generally Distributed Birds, Mountain-Heights through Valleys into the Piedmont:** Great Blue Heron, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle (so reported), Bob-white, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Barn Owl, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Flicker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Crested Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Acadian Flycatcher, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Catbird (about clearings in heights), Robin, Wood Thrush, Bluebird, Red-eyed Vireo, Black and White Warbler, (becoming less common below mountains

and mountain valleys), Oven-bird, Louisiana Water-thrush (these two last rare in Piedmont), Maryland Yellow-throat, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Indigo Bunting, Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow.

Mountain Valley Birds not Noted on Heights: Little Blue Heron (as a mid-summer migrant), Pileated Woodpecker, Bewick's Wren*, Brown Thrasher, Mockingbird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Sycamore Warbler*, Pine Warbler, Prairie Warbler*, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded Warbler*, Redstart*. (Species starred seem to favor mountain bases and valleys for breeding.)

Piedmont Peneplain Birds not Recorded in Mountain Valleys or on Heights: Killdeer, Nighthawk, Chuck-will's-widow, Red-headed Woodpecker, Purple Martin, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, English Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Blue Grosbeak, Dickcissel.

A. H. Howell, of the United States Biological Survey, some years since gave me as Carolina or Upper Austral Zone indicators: Ruffed Grouse, Whip-poor-will, Phoebe, Scarlet Tanager, Oven-bird. All occur in the highest South Carolina mountain ranges, the first, third, and fifth either now or formerly spilling through the valleys into the Piedmont peneplain. Of the last group given above the Chuck-will's-widow, the Blue Grosbeak, and the Brown-headed Nuthatch are Louisianian or Austroriparian indicators.

Pied-billed Grebes reported from the mountain heights and not from the valleys were probably under some local influence, as were Green Heron, Broad-winged Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Mourning Dove, Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Kingbird, Bank Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, all found in the valleys but not on the heights. From our valley camp the Blue Jay was conspicuous by its absence, which, according to an inhabitant's theory, may have been due to the absence of a small acorned oak that seems to supply much of the Blue Jay's food. Loomis, too, apparently noted that the Rough-winged Swallow, the Bewick's Wren, the Brown Thrasher, the White-eyed Vireo, the Yellow-throated Vireo, and the Sycamore Warbler did not favor the heights. From 2500 feet he noted Chestnut-sided, Golden-winged, and Blackburnian Warblers, all sometimes regarded as indicators of the Alleghenian or Transition Zone. The Mountain Vireo he found chiefly above 2000 feet, and it may be that my valley examples were under the influence of a somewhat later date and just beginning the first stages of migration immediately after nesting. The Duck Hawk of his day seems extinct in that area; the Nighthawk he apparently found in the "lower part of the country," that is, in the Piedmont peneplain; the Phoebe ranged well into the Piedmont, perhaps along more cliffy streams; the Red-bellied Woodpecker seems to have been a bird of lower areas. At times where it once appeared at least locally migrant on Piedmont farms it may now be found nesting, while Robins in recent years have spread out of the mountains almost to the seashore, and where they were once regarded only as winter visitors they now successfully rear their young.

Careful analysis of bird censuses and related observations in South Carolina and Georgia over a period of years indicates that the Austroriparian Zone, instead of following the Fall Line or boundary between the Coastal Plain and Piedmont as its upper limit, really reaches upward to the immediate foothills of the mountains. This would seem to indicate that the same zone may reach much further up the valleys of the Cumberland and Tennessee than older maps show. Such a boundary cannot, of course, be lined out like the limits of a county, but as a beginning accurate information on the northern breeding range of the Blue Grosbeak and the Chuck-will's-widow and of the southern breeding range of the Scarlet Tanager and Whip-poor-will would seem highly desirable.

Stationed observations for the above were chiefly made at Lake Rotary, east of, and Pioneer Park, beneath, Caesar's Head, near the North Carolina-South Carolina boundary. Extended observations in northern Georgia, with supplementary tours north to Pennsylvania and Missouri, have been made, but the findings are so far to be regarded as in a provisional rather than final form.

* * * * * *

ACADIAN FLYCATCHERS' NESTS

On Sunday, June 14, 1942, I discovered an Acadian Flycatcher's nest in an elm twenty feet above Pond Creek. The parents were feeding the young. On Tuesday, June 16, I discovered (with Dr. W. M. Clay) a second nest of this species in Iroquois Park twenty feet up in an oak. The tiny brook near the nest had dried up completely. Both nests were well built and suspended between two branches away out near the end of the branch in a limb too fragile to support a person's weight. The mother bird was incubating the eggs in the second nest.

—HARVEY B. LOVELL, Louisville.

* * * * * *

METHOD USED IN THE PROJECT OF THE STUDY OF BIRDS

By MINNIE LEE CHURCHILL, Murray High School

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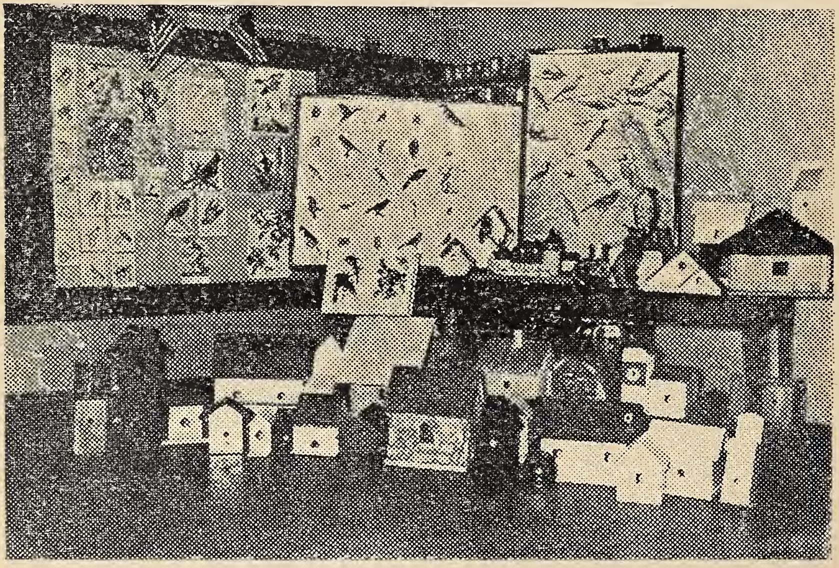
The Nathan B. Stubblefield Science Club of the Murray High School has been studying bird houses, which will be put out in time for the birds to build in them.



BIRD-STUDY EXHIBIT AT MURRAY HIGH SCHOOL

In our room we have several bird charts which show many kinds of birds in their natural habitat. We have possession of an electric map that will light when the bird corresponds with its name. We also have two bulletin boards of birds.

We have a model of the Audubon Museum at the Audubon Memorial State Park, Henderson County, Kentucky. We have access to several mounted birds which we have been studying; also such magazines as the OUTDOOR LIFE, FIELD AND STREAM, NATIONAL SPORTSMAN, OUTDOORS, SPORTS AND FISHING, and two books on birds of America by John James Audubon.

Our purpose for studying birds is to learn identification and conservation.

Our club has taken several field trips to learn the natural habitat and the characteristics of birds. A number of themes have been written on "Our State Bird, the Cardinal," "Conservation of Birds," "The Life of John James Audubon," and others. Some of the reports have been read to the club and were very interesting.

I think I will be speaking for myself and the whole club when I say that we have thoroughly enjoyed and profited by our study of birds.

* * * * * *

GLAUCOUS GULL IN LOUISVILLE

By FLOYD S. CARPENTER

It is usual for a number—at times over three hundred—of Herring and Ring-billed Gulls to spend the winter vacation in the delightful winter resort on the Ohio River known as the Falls and Louisville Harbor. In the spring and fall a few Bonaparte's Gulls may make a visit.

For a number of years bird students have watched these gulls in the hope that some rare species may drop in. The young Ring-bills and Herrings are mottled gray, brown, and white, while the adults are white with gray mantles and black wing-tips. On several occasions during the winter of 1941-42 I have seen a gull which seemed to be white all over. If this were true, this would certainly be a newcomer. Unfortunately, it was always too far away to be identified for certain. Other observers had had the same experience.

On February 21, 1942, about noon I saw this white gull near the Coast Guard station and went to get my field glasses, but when I returned with them, it was gone. On February 24 I happened to look out of the window of my office, which has only a railroad trestle between it and the river front. Again I thought I saw a white gull, but just then the C. and O. train the GEORGE WASHINGTON, backed leisurely into the station and obscured my vision. When the train was gone, so was my bird.

About three o'clock on the afternoon of February 26 about twenty gulls were wheeling around near the Green Line steamer, searching for food scraps that had been dumped overboard. On looking out, I saw an all-white gull plainly. With my glasses I watched it for fully five minutes at a distance of 200 to 400 feet. As it was diving and climbing, it could be seen from both above and below from my second-story lookout. Its plumage was white all over, its bill was yellow and large, and its feet and legs flesh color. It was a big gull, noticeably larger than the Herring Gulls it was with. These characteristics all indicated that it was a Glaucous Gull.

To check my observations, I asked Messrs. Fred W. Schneider, Jr., and Earl Hamilton to look at it and check its color. They used my binoculars and agreed with me that it was all white. Mr. Hamilton remarked on the comparatively large bill and the large size of the bird as compared with the Herring Gulls. He saw it again the next day, but since then until today, March 10, it has not been recorded.

From these observations there can be no question but that it was an adult Glaucous Gull, the first I have heard of as being definitely identified here. Many of the gulls here for the winter are in the first-year or second-year plumage, which is in various degrees of brown, grays, and whites. I have seen only two young gulls that are different from the usual. Both were large in size, one a rather dary gray uniformly colored all over, the other a rich brown all over. On no occasion have I been able to get a good look at either, but since their markings and color were so different from the usual young Herring and Ring-billed Gulls, I think that they may be of some other species. I regret to say that I cannot identify them.

* * * * * *

A SPRING WEEK-END OUTING

Beginning in 1937, when Dr. Gordon Wilson's wet-weather lake on the McElroy Farm was very large, many K. O. S. people have spent a week-end at Bowling Green or near by. The 1937, 1938, and 1939 meetings centered at the McElroy Farm; in 1940 and 1941, since no lake appeared, the crowd assembled at Mammoth Cave National Park. This year, 1942, on April 25 and 26 nineteen bird enthusiastis studied birds in the area at the mouth of Gasper River, fifteen miles north of Bowling Green. Dr. L. Y. Lancaster entertained the whole group by putting at its disposal his two rebuilt log cabins. Each small group brought its own food and prepared it on the open cooking place between the cabins. Field trips were made in several directions on Saturday afternoon and again on Sunday morning. Since the time was the height of the migration season, birds were very pentiful, in spite of somewhat unfavorable weather. The following species were recorded: Bluebird, Bobwhite, Red-winged Blackbird, Indigo Bunting, Catbird, Cardinal, Carolina Chickadee, Cowbird, Crow, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Dove, Flicker, Crested Flycatcher, Goldfinch, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Bronzed Grackle, Rose-breasted Grosebeak, Green Heron, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Blue Jay, Killdeer, Kingfisher, Meadowlark, Prairie Horned Lark, Purple Martin, Mockingbird, White-breasted Nuthatch, Orchard Oriole, Barred Owl, Great Horned Owl, Phoebe, Wood Pewee, Robin, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, English Sparrow, Starling, Barn Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Chimney Swift, Summer Tanager, Tufted Titmouse, Brown Thrasher, Wood Thrush, Louisiana Water-thrush, Towhee, Red-eyed Vireo, White-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Northern Yellowthroat, Myrtle Warbler, Western Palm Warbler, Redstart, Sycamore Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Blue-winged Teal, Baldpate, Cedar Waxwing, Whip-poor-will, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs. Total 80 species, and one doubtful, which some of us thought to be Bell's Vireo.

Participating in this week-end camp were Mr. and Mrs. S. Charles Thacher, Dr. and Mrs. Harvey Lovell, Misses Mabel Slack, Esther Mason, Evelyn J. Schneider, Dorothy Peil, Helen Peil, Amy

Deane, Alice Horneman, Audrey Wright, Thelma Gentry, and Dr. P. A. Davies, all of Louisville; Messrs. Albert F. Ganier and Conrad Jamison, Nashville, Tennessee; Dr. Gordon Wilson, Dr. L. Y. Lancaster and Jack Coppersmith of Bowling Green.

* * * * * *

TWENTY ACRES—THIRTY BIRDS

Not since 1939 has there been enough water at the McElroy farm at the right time to attract any number of water and wading birds. It was a treat, then, to have under almost constant observation this spring a twenty-acre wet-weather lake some five miles southeast of Bowling Green on the Willis and Evans Farms. Some years ago the part on Mr. Evans's farm was bedded, that is, ridged up for cultivation, with drainage furrows between the beds. This enabled me to walk right out into the pond and observe the birds at close range. The number of species astonished me, though the number of individuals was never large as compared with even poor years at the McElroy Farm. On April 4, I recorded fourteen species within a half hour; on May 16, the last big day, I saw twelve. Besides the ever-present killdeer I found thirty species of water and wading birds, one of them, the Sanderling, being new for my life list at Bowling Green, though I have often seen it on the Gulf Coast in Mississippi. Other rarities were the Golden and Black-bellied Plovers and the Western Willet. All told, I visited the place fourteen times, usually walking the full length of the overflowed area or entirely around it.

Here are the thirty, with their first and last dates, in addition to their abundance: Pied-billed Grebe, April 4-29, 1 or 2 each time; Little Blue Heron (very rare in spring migration), 1 on May 9; Eastern Green Heron, 1 to 10 each time from April 25 to May 16, two nests on May 31; Yellow-crowned Night Heron, 1 on May 12, 3 on May 23, 1 on May 31, (Dr. Lovell photographed one on June 3 on this pond); American Bittern, 1 on April 28; Mallard, 2 to 6 each time in early April; Baldpate, 2 to 6 each time in early April; American Pintail, as many as 35 on March 6, 6 to 10 each time from April 4 to the end of the month, 2 pairs until May 16; Shoveller, 2 or 3 on April 4 and 15; Wood Duck, 1 on March 14; Lesser Scaup, 4 on April 4 and 15; American Golden-eye, 1 on April 28; Hooded Merganser, pair on April 28; Coot, 1 on April 15; Semipalmated Plover, 3 to 10 from April 20 to May 16; Golden Plover, 1 on May 16 in company with the 2 Black-bellied Plovers; Wilson's Snipe, 2 to 4 each time from March 14 to May 9 at the springy place where the pond has its source; Spotted Sandpiper, 2 to 4 each time from April 15 to May 16; Solitary Sandpiper, 3 on April 4, 6 to 10 each time thereafter to May 16; Western Willet, 1 on May 12 and May 16; Greater Yellow-legs, 2 to 8 from March 14 to May 12, 1 on May 23; Lesser Yellow-legs, 2 to 20 from April 4 to May 16, often very noisy in May; Pectoral Sandpiper, 6 to 12 on March 14 and April 4; Least Sandpiper, 2 to 10 from April 28 to May 16; Semipalmated Sandpiper, 1 on May 12 and May 16; Sanderling, 1 on May 9; Herring Gull, 1 through early April.

The only other water birds I have recorded this spring were the Egret, at the Wilson Farm, across the road from the McElroy Farm, on May 9; the Great Blue Heron, 2 in the Chaney Marsh on May 9; and the Holboell's Grebe, 1 on a small hog pond near the Chaney barn, on March 14.

—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green.

OUR FALL MEETING

Be on the lookout for a card later in the summer announcing our fall meeting. The Executive Committee has not yet determined on the place.

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THE OTTER CREEK NATURE CAMP ON BIRDS

By EVELYN J. SCHNEIDER

The first of the Kentucky Natural History Camps, May 1-3, 1942, at the Otter Creek Recreational Area, was devoted to the study of birds. Harvey B. Lovell and Evelyn J. Schneider, the instructors, were assisted by Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Bunce, of the Area.

These week-end field schools for nature teachers, leaders, and nature lovers were the outgrowth of the Kentucky Natural History Institute, held for the first time for a full two-week period in June, 1941. For various reasons it seemed more feasible to hold the Institute this year over a series of week-ends, devoting each one to a different subject. The series was under the direction of Dr. Harlow Bishop, president of the Louisville Natural History Club.

The first camp in the series proved a highly successful one and set a challenge for those to follow. The twenty-nine participants spent a profitable and enjoyable week-end; a number of them returned for later periods in the series. The camp began officially at supper on Friday evening. After supper Dr. Lovell showed kodachrome bird slides, many of which were procured through the courtesy of Colonel Lucien Beckner, of the Louisville Public Library Museum, and discussed bird habits and the identification of confusing species. The group then listened to the new bird song records from the Laboratory of Ornithology of Cornell University. That night, after every one was tucked into bed, came the thrill of a nocturnal concert, a veritable battle of music between Whip-poor-wills and Chuck-will's widows.

Saturday began with a six-o'clock bird walk to Lover's Leap, where a Worm-eating Warbler was proudly singing its insect-like song from a low tree part way down the cliffs. After breakfast a four-hour field trip started through the Tall Trees area, continued down to Blue Hole, and along Otter Creek, to the steep trail back to Camp Piomingo. After lunch a round-table discussion was held in the lodge. Various phases of bird life, including habitats at Otter Creek and the adaptation of birds to a life in the air, were discussed; a pigeon skeleton was used for demonstration. Many bird books and journals were on display; these were discussed and examined for their relative values. Several short field trips followed in the late afternoon to different parts of the area, including the region above and below Morgan's Cave and the Big Bend Camps. In this latter area the group discovered a Sora Rail, a new record for Otter Creek. Saturday evening every one met again in the recreation hall. Following the playing of more bird song records, Dr. Lovell showed color slides in connection with his discussion of bird food, particularly berries and other fruits. The evening closed with a songfest led by Mr. and Mrs. Bunce.

Sunday morning those who got up early enough for a before-breakfast walk, chiefly the late arrivals, were rewarded by finding a Least Flycatcher singing, the first record in the area of this hard-to-find species. The group was divided into several units for the longer trip after breakfast. Those who went down along the bluffs to the point where Otter Creek enters the Ohio River found several Spotted Sandpipers and a Little Blue Heron. The Chestnut-sided

Warbler singing merrily from the trees on the bluffs came out into view of the group watching close by; the flock of Cedar Waxwings near the dining hall thrilled the beginners with their sleek dress; the Rose-breasted Grosbeak displayed his bright color to a favored few as they rested a moment in their climb up a steep wooded slope; the Prothonotary Warbler called loudly for the benefit of those along the creek; over in Tall Trees the thrushes vied with the tanagers and woodpeckers for recognition. When the list was compiled after dinner, it was found that 89 species had been recorded during the week-end period. The group disbanded with the sincere hope that next year the Natural History Club would be able to continue such camps.

Those attending were the following: Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Bunce, Otter Creek Reservation Area; Mr. and Mrs. F. Everett Frei, Glasgow; Allen Craig, Frederick T. Heyliger, Roderick Huff, Fort Knox; Mrs. Mame Boulware, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Brecher, Ruth Brecher, Helen Browning, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cornett, Amy Deane, Laura Draper, Harvey Lovell, Helen and Dorothy Peil, Esther Mason, Virginia Rose, Evelyn Schneider, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Dorothy Sternberg, Olga Tafel, Mr. and Mrs. S. Charles Thacher, Audrey Wright, Louisville.

The species recorded were Little Blue Heron, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Sora Rail, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Whip-poor-will, Chuck-will's-widow, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Blackbunian Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Western Palm Warbler, Oven-bird, Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Maryland Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded Warbler, Canada Warbler, English Sparrow, Meadow-lark, Red-winged Blackbird, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Eastern Goldfinch, Red-eyed Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Shipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

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MEMBERSHIP LIST OF THE K. O. S. AS OF JULY 15, 1942

Allen, Otis W., Greenwood, Miss.
Allen, Dr. W. R., University of Kentucky, Lexington.
Anderson, Anne, 1031 Fourth, Louisville.
Armstrong, Mrs. Anna H., 1210 Ray Ave., Louisville.
Bandeen, Mrs. S. G., 627 South Main, Shelbyville.
Barbour, Roger W., 146 Wallace, Frankfort.
Beckner, Col. and Mrs. Lucien, 1204 South Second, Louisville.
Bell, Mrs. Orpah Scott, Taylorsville.

Berea College Library, Berea.
Bergman, Amy, 209 University Ave., Lexington.
Bossung, Esther, 1612 Jaeger, Louisville.
Boulware, Mrs. Mame, 206 West Oak, Louisville.
Boyd, Lyda, 1382 South First, Louisville.
Brecher, Leonard, 1900 Spring Drive, Louisville.
Brecher, Mrs. Leonard, 1900 Spring Drive, Louisville.
Browning, Helen, 206 West Oak, Louisville.
Bryens, Oscar McKinley, R. F. D. 1, McMillan, Mich.
Bunce, F. N., Otter Creek, West Point.
Carpenter, Floyd S., 2402 Longest, Louisville.
Chamberlain, Carlyle, 1313 Olive, Louisville.
Clay, Isabel, 423 West Second, Lexington.
Clay, Dr. W. M., University of Louisville, Louisville.
Coates, Jean, 115 East Gray, Louisville.
Cole, Dr. Arch, 3214 Crossbill Road, Louisville.
Counce, Dr. Cynthia, Western State Hospital, Hopkinsville.
Crenshaw, King C., Sulphur Well.
Davies, Dr. P. A., 3124 Meadowlark Road, Louisville.
Davis, Professor George, State Teachers College, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.
Deane, Amy, 2313 Hale, Louisville.
Deats, Mrs. Ernest, Route 2, Anchorage.
DeJarnette, Leila, 105 St. Catherine, Louisville.
DeWeese, J. D., Glasgow.
Dodge, Major Victor K., 137 Bell Court, W., Lexington.
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Doelckner, Mrs. Eugene, R. F. D. 2, Louisville.
Duncan, Mrs. Joseph L., 528 Barberry Lane, Louisville.
Durham, Shirley, 223 Harrahan Apt., Paducah.
Frazer, Dr. T. Atchison, Marion.
Frei, F. Everett, 130 South Green, Glasgow.
Frei, Mrs. F. Everett, 202 Leslie, Glasgow.
Fust, Erma, 233 Breckenridge Lane, Louisville.
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Gadjen, Gertrude, 1032 Mary, Louisville.
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Heeb, Mrs. W. P., 1140 Everett, Louisville.
Herr, Mrs. G. B., Box A, Anchorage.
Hickman, Mrs. Baylor O., Glenview, Louisville.
Hobson, Mrs. L. G., 1309 North Pennsylvania Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.
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Indiana Audubon Society, Margaret Umbach, 2526 East Drive, Fort Wayne, Ind.
Johnson, Ruth, Bagdad.
Kentucky University Library, Lexington.
Kerbel, Karl, 1322 South Floyd, Louisville.
Kincheloe, Mrs. Elizabeth, 1000 Cecil Ave., Louisville.
King, Virgil D., 39 East Hillcrest Ave., Dayton, Ohio.
Kingman Memorial Museum, Battle Creek, Michigan.

Kinnaird, Mrs. Edna Wood, 651 Floyd, Louisville.
Kinslow, Hazel, 223 Harrahan Apt., Paducah.
Knox, Margaret, 4030 Park Ave., Indianapolis, Indiana.
Kozee, Ercel, Johns Run.
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Laskey, Mrs. F. C., Graybar Lane, Nashville, Tennessee.
Lebre, Victor, 850 East Parkway, Louisville.
Library Extension Division, Frankfort.
Library, University of Louisville, Louisville.
Link, Henrietta, 175 North Jane, Louisville.
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Lovell, Mrs. Harvey B., 3011 Meade Ave., Louisville.
Lovell, Mrs. John H., 28 Winter Street, Sanford, Maine.
Lyon, Mrs. Ellen S., Bethel College, Hopkinsville.
Lusky, Beatrice, City Hospital, Louisville.
Mackey, Ann, 1710 Tyler Parkway, Louisville.
Mariners' Ship Nika, Christ Church Cathedral, Louisville.
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Maslowski, Karl, 1034 Maycliff Place, Cincinnati, Ohio.
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Mathis, Mrs. Fred, 508 Plainview, Shelbyville.
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Mayer, John H., Cynthiana.
Mayer, Mrs. John H., 103 South Miller, Cynthiana.
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Mellor, Mrs. Marshall, 3012 Oriole Drive, Louisville.
Middleton, Dr. Austin R., University of Louisville, Louisville.
Miller, John C., 1606 Lucia Ave., Louisville.
Miller, Nancy, 2718 Winchester Ave., Ashland.
Mittlebeeler, Elizabeth, 2007 Grasmere Drive, Louisville.
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Monroe, Burt L., Ridge Road, Anchorage.
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Moorman, Aubrey, Leitchfield.
Moorman, Mrs. Aubrey, Leitchfield.
Morrell, Charles, 119 East Maxwell, Lexington.
Mouser, Martina, New Haven.
McAllister, Etta, Crestwood.
Ephraim McDowell Science Club, Danville High School, Danville.
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Peil, Helen, 2064 Sherwood Ave., Louisville.
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Pickens, Dr. A. L., Paducah Junior College, Paducah.
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Prentice, Mrs. John M., 411 Fairlawn, Louisville.
Previette, Kent H., 2220 Highland, Louisville.
Ray, Edward M., 2736 Shippen, Louisville.
Rogers, H. Cal., R. F. D. 3, Glasgow.
Rogers, Mrs. H. Cal., R. F. D. 3, Glasgow.
Rogers, Hollis J., University of Kentucky, Lexington.

Rose, Sarah Virginia, 2028 Alta, Louisville.
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Schneider, Mrs. Fred, 2207 Alta, Louisville.
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Short, Mrs. Walter D., 2804 Hillcrest Terrace, Evansville, Indiana.
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Slack, Mabel, 1004 Everett, Louisville.
Smithwick, Dr. Gladys, 270 Lexington Ave., Lexington.
Stamm, Fred W., 2118 Lakeside Drive, Louisville.
Stamm, Mrs. Fred W., 2118 Lakeside Drive, Louisville.
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Sternberg, Dorothy, 531 West Hill, Louisville.
Strull, Charles, 2100 Murray Ave., Louisville.
Tafel, Olga, Box 132, R. R. 3, Anchorage.
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Thacher, Mrs. Charles, 2918 Brownsboro Road, Louisville.
Towner, O. W., Anchorage.
Towner, Mrs. O. W., Anchorage.
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Van Arsdall, Alex., 1024 Beaumont Ave., Harrodsburg.
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Wallace, Tom, Editor of Louisville Times, Louisville.
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Warren, Emily, R. R. 1, Anchorage.
Webster, Dr. Harvey, 2300 Newburg Road, Louisville.
Wilson, Dr. Gordon, Teachers College, Bowling Green.
Windstandley, Frances, 815 Vincennes, New Albany, Indiana.
Witt, Robert L., Morganfield.
Wright, Audrey, 1312 Hepburn Ave., Louisville.
Wright, Earl G., Chicago Academy of Sciences, Chicago, Illinois.
Wyman, Mary May, 1040 Mary, Louisville.
Young, James Boswell, 2516 Talbott Ave., Louisville.
Zimmer, Henry, R. R. 6, Box 474, Hikes Lane, Louisville.
Zimmer, Mrs. Henry, R. R. 6, Box 474, Hikes Lane, Louisville.

STUDENT MEMBERS

Draper, Laura, 16 Hawthorne, Louisville.
Levitan, Grace, 2 Walden Place, Louisville.
McKinley, George G., 2317 Montgomery, Louisville.
Noshpitz, Joseph, 125 West Lee, Louisville.
Pierce, Gene, 424 North Forty-first, Louisville.
Ribot, Seymour, 1717 North First, Louisville.
Schalk, Margaret, 2702 Seventh Street Road, Shively.
Short, Betsy Boyer, 2152 Eastview Ave., Louisville.
Stinnette, Kenneth, 1642 Lucia Ave., Louisville.
Thomasson, Frances, 2100 Douglas Boulevard, Louisville.
Weindl, Shirley, 1937 Richmond Ave., Louisville.
Weiss, Bernard, 1717 South First, Louisville.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1923, for the purpose of encouraging the study of Kentucky birds and to sponsor measures for their protection. It has functioned continuously since that time, has accomplished much upon its objectives, and looks forward with optimism toward a fine field of endeavor.

Ornithology—the study of birds—is a fascinating interest and pastime and each year its devotees increase in numbers. One of the chief objectives of the Society is to band together those who hold this kindred interest, to encourage them in their work, and to "show the way" to others. Our members should therefore endeavor to enlist the interest of others in the study of birds and help them on toward a good start. Each of these new recruits should then be invited to become members of the Society so that they may more fully participate in the pleasure to be derived from bird study.

Our dues of one dollar are very small and constitute our only revenue. We are anxious to increase the size and quality of the magazine and our ability to do so will depend entirely on the growth of our membership. Each member therefore is requested to bring in at least one new member yearly.

An Annual Spring Meeting is held every year at Louisville at the time of the convention of the Kentucky Educational Association. An Annual Fall Meeting and Field Day is held in October at some place of special interest in Kentucky. Membership is open to non-residents as well as to residents of the State.

Correspondence relating to membership and dues should be sent to Mrs. F. Everett Frei, Secretary-Treasurer, 202 Leslie Avenue, Glasgow, Kentucky.

All members are invited to contribute articles and notes for publication in the Kentucky Warbler and these should be sent to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Teachers College, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
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NATIONAL MUSEUM

. . . The . . .
Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Vol. XVIII AUTUMN, 1942 No. 4

OUR ANNUAL FALL MEETING

By MARY LOU FREI

Beautiful Berea, nestled in the mountains of eastern Kentucky, was the location of the eighteenth fall meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society on October 9, 10, and 11, with Boone Tavern as headquarters. The glorious weather, the gorgeous autumnal coloration of the landscape, and the genial college atmosphere made this meeting a memorable occasion.

The opening session was held in the Biology Building on Friday evening, October 9, at 8:00 o'clock. E. M. Hoffman, of the Foundation School, was introduced to the audience of members and students by our president, Dr. Harvey Lovell. Mr. Hoffman enthusiastically presented his talk on "Birds of Manchuria," illustrating his lecture with pen drawings he had made during his years of Asiatic residence and first-hand acquaintance with these birds. "The Life of the Killdeer" was graphically portrayed by Miss Frances Winstanley, of New Albany, Indiana, with her colored moving pictures of that title. The characteristic poses of the parent birds in feigning wing injuries, making belligerent rushes toward the camera, and spreading and fanning their tails made a remarkable picture. Miss Mabel Slack, our vice-president, presided over the showing of Kodachrome Shorts that followed. Floyd Carpenter, Evelyn Schneider, and Dr. Harvey Lovell showed slides of Natural Bridge, Cumberland Falls, Sulphur Well, Lancaster Cabin, and other points of interest in Kentucky, while Kent Previette entertained us with a moving account of "How Not to Take Pictures."

Saturday, October 10, presented a full schedule, from the time of the early morning chimes to late that night. After a leisurely breakfast at Boone Tavern, our members divideed into two groups, one to leave at 9:00 o'clock for a bird walk to Twin Mountains, the other to begin at 9:25 a tour of Berea College industries, dairy, hatchery, and farms, with guides furnished by the college. Most of the birds listed on the morning hike, led by Dr. Loefer, of Berea College, were observed in large trees bordering a small stream. Laurel, oaks, and wild cherry trees were filled with flitting warblers and phlegmatic young Cedar Waxwings, eating the wild fruit. When birds proved to be elusive, cameras were put into action. With the

JUN 9 '44

The Kentucky Ornithological Society In Front Of Boone Tavern, Berea, October 11, 1942

First Row—Sitting, left to right: Mrs. F. Everett Frei, Mrs. Mame Boulware, Mrs. S. Charles Thacher, Thelma Gentry, Mrs. W. R. Allen, Dr. Cynthia C. Counce, Helen Peil, Amy Deane.

Second Row—Sitting, left to right: A. F. Ganier, Esther Mason, Helen Browning, Alice Horneman, Virginia Winstanley, Mabel Slack, Louise Isfort, Mrs. Leo Walkaw, Mrs. Charles Strull.

Standing—Left to right: Dr. Harvey Lovell, Dr. W. R. Allen, Dr. John S. Bangson, Audrey Wright, S. Charles Thacher, Leonard C. Brecher, H. Cal Rogers, Dr. John B. Loefer, Fred Stamm, Ann Stamm, Harold Strull, Evelyn J. Schneider, Floyd S. Carpenter, Mrs. Leonard C. Brecher, Clayton Gooden, Mrs. Z. C. Layson, Mrs. Eugene Doelckner, Mrs. Harvey B. Lovell, Dorothy Peil, Mrs. Nelson Nuckols.

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assistance of a placid four-footed model, Kent Previette, expert, gave lessons on "How to Charm a Cow."

The afternoon session began at 1:00 o'clock in Room 208 of the Draper Building. Dr. John Loefer showed "Birds of the Pacific Coast," moving pictures in color taken by Miss Nellie Crabb, college librarian. The pictures of the Western water birds were good, and we were captivated by the excellent shots of Anna's Hummingbird that climaxed the reel. James J. Gilpin, Educational Director of the Division of Fish and Game, Frankfort, presented moving pictures in natural color of the work of the department in supplying quail, from the hatching of the eggs to the delivery of the birds to the farmer. He also showed pictures of birds and animals native to this state, the most appealing being the chipmunk and the red fox. "Identification of Birds," by A. F. Ganier, Nashville, Tennessee, concluded the afternoon session. Mr. Ganier, in an excellent discourse, gave many valuable hints on identifying birds in the field, equally useful for novices and advanced ornithologists. He illustrated his talk with bird skins.

At 3:30 the members of the Berea College Ornithological Club, Estil Dietz, president, led a short bird walk in the vicinity of the campus and along the railroad tracks. The find of this trip was a Long-billed Marsh Wren.

At 6:15 we gathered around the beautifully decorated banquet table prepared for us in the private dining room at Boone Tavern. We were fortunate to have Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland Grant with us. The business meeting scheduled was omitted so that we might be ready to attend the most important event of the whole meeting, the lecture by Mr. Grant, a feature presentation of Berea College. Promptly at 7:30 a large audience of townspeople, college students, and K. O. S. members assembled in the main chapel to be enthralled with the magnificent color movies taken by America's foremost wildlife photographer, Cleveland P. Grant, of the Baker-Hunt Foundation. The home life of the Bluebird and Scarlet Tanager, the parental excellence of the Blue Jay, the pompous strutting of the Prairie Chicken, the breath-taking courtship performance of the Ruffed Grouse, the exquisite flight of the Gannet, the grace of the deer, and agility of mountain sheep were all perfectly portrayed by Mr. Grant in "Adventures with American Birds and Big Game." Following the lecture the executive board held a meeting at Boone

Tavern. When this was concluded, the "night owls" held a late session around the skittle board in the lobby.

Although an "informal bird walk for the ambitious" was scheduled for 6:00 A. M. Sunday morning, there were few, if any, that ambitious. After breakfast the members gathered on the front steps of Boone Tavern for a group picture, reproduced here. A large number of bird students then left by car for Big Hill, a mountain several miles distant. Parking the cars by the side of the road, the crowd divided into several groups and, led by Drs. Bangson and Loefer, explored the surrounding woods, hills, and fields. Sparrows and warblers were plentiful. The Pine Warbler charmed many with its trill.

Following the final meal at Boone Tavern at 1:00 P. M. was the annual business meeting, with Dr. Lovell presiding. The report of the secretary-treasurer, audited and approved by Leonard C. Brecher, was read by Mrs. Frei. The report of the nominating committee was given by Miss Thelma Gentry, chairman. There being no nominations from the floor, the secretary was instructed to cast one vote for the following officers recommended by the committee for the year 1942-43:

President—Dr. Harvey B. Lovell, University of Louisville

Vice-President—Miss Mabel Slack, Atherton High School, Louisville

Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. F. Everett Frei, Glasgow

Councillors—Dr. Cynthia C. Counce, Hopkinsville; Dr. John Loefer, Berea College; H. Cal Rogers, Glasgow.

Dr. Lovell was congratulated on his splendid work as president and for his untiring efforts to increase our membership. Leonard Brecher, chairman of the legislative committee, reported "all quiet" on this front. Dr. Lovell reported briefly on the conversation that the executive board had with Dr. Anna Schnieb regarding the affiliation of the Junior Academy of Science with our organization. After a short discussion Mr. Brecher moved that the K. O. S. invite the Junior Academies to affiliate with us, and that in addition to the two prizes we now offer for the best essay on birds, showing original observations, we give them $10.00 this year to assist in the publication of their periodical. This was unanimously agreed. Dr. Lovell called attention to the fact that with our fast-growing membership more copies of the WARBLER must be printed, and asked that all back numbers not being saved be turned over to Miss Schneider. In the absence of Miss Audrey Wright, Miss Schneider read the report of the resolutions committee, thanking Berea College and all those who helped to make our stay in Berea so pleasant. Our only regret was that Dr. T. Atchison Frazer and Dr. Gordon Wilson, two of our oldest members in point of service, could not be present.

Birds seen on our hikes were the following: Turkey Vulture, 5; Black Vulture, 1; Cooper's Hawk, 2; Marsh Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Bob-white, 1; Killdeer, 6; Mourning Dove, 5; Chimney Swift, 2,000 (up to several days before the meeting several thousand Chimney Swifts regularly went into one of the tall power plant chimneys that is not now in use. Mr. Floyd S. Carpenter and I waited on

Sunday afternoon, after the other members had left, to see whether these numbers again appeared, but none came.—John Loefer); Flicker, 5; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 2; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Wood Pewee, 3; Blue Jay, 12; Crow, 6; Carolina Chickadee, 20; Tufted Titmouse, 8; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Brown Creeper, 1; Long-billed Marsh Wren, 2; Bewick's Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 4; Mockingbird, 5; Catbird, 1; Robin, 4; Bluebird, 20; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 6; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 4; Cedar Waxwing, 60; Starling, 90; White-eyed Vireo, 1; Red-eyed Vireo, 2; Black and White Warbler, 1; Tennessee Warbler, 1; Magnolia Warbler, 3; Myrtle Warbler, 9; Black-throated Green Warbler, 6; Chestnut-sided Warbler, 2; Pine Warbler, 3; Wilson's Warbler, 1; English Sparrow, 25; Meadowlark, 12; Red-winged Blackbird, 5; Bronzed Grackle, 200; Scarlet Tanager, 1; Summer Tanager, 1; Cardinal, 3; Indigo Bunting, 1; Goldfinch, 45; Red-eyed Towhee, 5; Savannah Sparrow, 12; Vesper Sparrow, 2; Lark Sparrow, 1; Slate-colored Junco, 8; Chipping Sparrow, 5; Field Sparrow, 25; White-crowned Sparrow, 2; White-throated Sparrow, 14; Swamp Sparrow, 6; Song Sparrow, 6. Total, 62 species, about 2,686 individuals.

The following people were present at all or part of the meetings: Louisville—Misses Alice Horneman, Mabel Slack, Thelma Gentry, Helen Browning, Evelyn Schneider, Sarah Virginia Rose, Audrey Wright, Helen Peil, Dorothy Peil, Amy Deane, Esther Mason, Louise Isfort, Leonora Johnston; Mrs. Mame Boulware, Mrs. Eugene Doelckner, Mrs. Thomas Johnston; Messrs. Floyd S. Carpenter, Kent Previette, Harold P. Strull; Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Brecher, Mr. and Mrs. S. Charles Thacher, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Dr. and Mrs. Harvey Lovell, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Strull, Mr. and Mrs. I. Leo Walkaw; New Albany, Indiana—Frances Winstanley and sister; Lexington—Misses Amanda Harms, Vivian Starns, Gladys Smithwick; Mr. and Mrs. G. Norton Sharpe, Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Allen; Frankfort—James J. Gilpin; Berea—Ellen M. Frederickson, Nellie I. Crabb, Nellie I. Floyd, Ruth Faust, Mrs. Lois Haun, Messrs. John S. Bangson, John Loefer, Estil Dietz, Hobert Woodrum, Algie Hicks, E. Michael Hoffman; Richmond—Mrs. Mary E. Barnhill, Dr. Anna A. Schnieb, T. Harold Glover; Glasgow—Mr. and Mrs. H. Cal Rogers, Mrs. Nelson Nuckols, Mrs. Everett Frei, Clayton Gooden; Maysville—Mrs. Z. C. Layson; Hopkinsville—Dr. Cynthia C. Counce; Covington—Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland Grant; Nashville, Tenn.—A. F. Ganier.

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FINANCIAL REPORT

RECEIPTS—

Balance on hand at the close of 1941 report	$ 49.11
70 Memberships @ $1.00	70.00
85 Memberships @ 75c (from chapters)	63.75
12 Student Memberships @ 25c	3.00
Interest on endowment	10.50
Sale of back issues of WARBLER	20.35
Contributions for WARBLER cuts	9.84
Contributions for prizes	5.00
Profit on luncheon at spring meeting	2.00
TOTAL	$233.55

DISBURSEMENTS—

For printing four issues of WARBLER (including covers)	$108.32
Envelopes for mailing WARBLER (1000)	4.25
Stamps	12.00
Cuts for WARBLER	9.84
K. E. A. film rental	1.50
Photographic copies of WARBLER	1.60
Membership in Kentucky Conservation Council	2.00
Prizes for Junior Academy of Science essays	5.00
Expenses for membership drive	3.00
Card file	.25
TOTAL	$147.76
Balance on hand, October 11, 1942	$ 85.79

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THE WINTER RANGE OF BEWICK'S WREN IN KENTUCKY

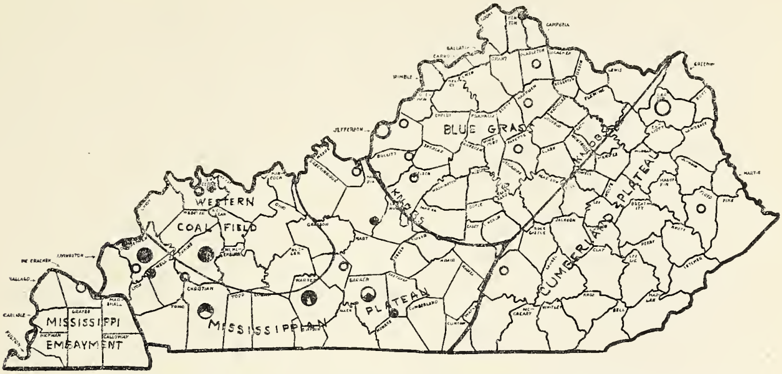
By HARVEY B. LOVELL and WILLIAM M. CLAY
University of Louisville

The interesting winter range of Bewick's Wren in Kentucky was brought to our attention by the appearance of this species on January 28, 1940, at our feeding station in Jefferson County, just outside the city limits of Louisville. The bird was positively identified on February 4, at whch time the junior author took colored moving pictures from a blind as the bird was feeding on a swinging tray. This wren was seen frequently throughout the month of February.

Although the Carolina Wren is very common and the Winter Wren moderately common during the winter in Jefferson County, we do not consider the Bewick's Wren a winter resident. It is not listed in any of the numerous Christmas censuses from Louisville, Anchorage, or Shepherdsville during the last fourteen years. (See table.) Burt Monroe, who has kept accurate migration dates for many years. informs us in a personal communication that his latest record for the Bewick's Wren is November 21, 1936, and the earliest date is March 8, 1934, the average date of arrival being March 14.

On the other hand the Bewick's Wren appears to be relatively regular as a winter resident at Bowling Green, in the southern part of the state. Forty-four individuals have been reported during the last fourteen years' censuses. Gordon Wilson writes us as follows: "Bewick's Wrens are rare but persistent in winter. I find that six is the highest number for any one day of which I have a record. The Carolina Wren is normally ten to twenty-five times as numerous."

We have assembled all the published Christmas census records of this wren in Kentucky for the last fourteen years and have tabulated the data in the table. There have been 97 censuses taken during this time, and the Bewick's Wren has been reported in 46 of them. These censuses have been taken in 27 localities, with the Bewick's Wren occurring in 14. The greatest number of these wrens to be reported in any one census was seven at Bowling Green by Gordon Wilson in 1932 and seven at Marion in 1928 by Dr. T. Atchison Frazer. Six have been reported in the following localities: at Bowling Green in 1931, at Marion in 1935, and at Tolu by Charles Jones in 1939.



THE WINTER RANGE OF BEWICK'S WREN

We have prepared a map of Kentucky (See cut) showing the localities of these censuses. Large circles have been used to indicate localities in which there have been five or more censuses and small circles for those places where fewer than five censuses have been taken. The amount of blackening of the circles indicates the percentage of times Bewick's Wrens have been reported from that locality. For example, at Glasgow, where this species has been reported in two out of six censuses, we have blackened one-third of the large circle, whereas at Louisville, where there are no Christmas records during the last fourteen years, we have left the center of the large circle white. At Cox's Creek, where Bewick's Wrens were observed once in four years, we have blackened one-fourth of a small circle, while at Lexington, where no wrens were reported in two censuses, we have placed a small unshaded circle.

An examination of the map and table indicates that the Bewick's Wren is relatively common during the winter in both the western and the south-central parts of Kentucky. In the western part, at Marion, 34 individuals have been seen, one or more in each of the 12 censuses. It has been reported in all seven censuses at Madisonville, 2 out of 5 at Hopkinsville, and one out of two at Henderson. There is also a record of the species from each of the following towns: Fredonia, Spottsville, Dawson Springs, and Tolu. None were seen at Paducah, however.

In the south-central part of the state we find the Bewick's Wren is also common in winter. At Bowling Green 44 individuals have been recorded, in 12 out of 14 censuses, the largest number for any part of the state. The bird has also been reported in two out of six censuses at Glasgow and once from Summer Shade, in Metcalfe County.

On the other hand, in the eastern and north-central parts of Kentucky there are no records from Louisville, Anchorage, Otter Creek, Shepherdsville, Lexington, Cynthiana, John's Run, or Hueysville, where a total of 30 censuses have been taken. In Louisville, where the Bewick's Wren nests very commonly, and where there is a large amount of data available on the winter birds, there are no

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHRISTMAS CENSUSES TAKEN IN KENTUCKY, 1928-1941, AND THE NUMBER OF BEWICK'S WRENS REPORTED

County — Locality	Total Censuses	No. Not Reporting B. Wrens	Number Reporting B. Wrens	Total B. Wrens Reported
Barren—Glasgow	6	4	2	2
Bullitt—Shepherdsville	2	2	0	0
Caldwell—Fredonia	1	0	1	4
Campbell—Dayton	2	0	2	3
Carter—John's Run	5	5	0	0
Christian—Hopkinsville	5	3	2	4
Crittenden—Marion	12	0	12	34
Crittenden—Dycusburg	1	1	0	0
Crittenden—Tolu	1	0	1	6
Edmonson—Mammoth Cave	1	1	0	0
Fayette—Lexington	2	2	0	0
Floyd—Hueysville	2	2	0	0
Hardin—Sonora	2	0	2	4
Harrison—Cynthiana	2	2	0	0
Henderson—Henderson	2	1	1	1
Henderson—Spottsville	1	0	1	2
Hopkins—Madisonville	7	0	7	13
Hopkins—Dawson Springs	1	0	1	1
Jefferson—Anchorage	3	3	0	0
Jefferson—Louisville	14	14	0	0
McCracken—Paducah	3	3	0	0
Meade—Otter Creek	1	1	0	0
Metcalfe—Summer Shade	1	0	1	1
Nelson—Cox's Creek	4	3	1	2
Pendleton—Falmouth	1	1	0	0
Pulaski—Science Hill	1	1	0	0
Warren—Bowling Green	14	2	12	44
TOTALS	97	51	46	121

winter records during the last 14 years except for the records in January and February mentioned at the beginning of this paper.

It is not surprising that among the 97 censuses there are two records north of its normal winter range for the Bewick's Wren. Both of these are for Dayton, on the Ohio River, in the extreme northern part of Kentucky, opposite Cincinnati.

Why does Bewick's Wren winter in the southern and western parts of the state but not in the other portions? Are there any biotic, climatic, or physiographic reasons for the marked zoning shown on our map? We do not know enough about the winter food or other habits of this wren to draw any conclusions on a purely ecological basis. There is, however, an interesting concurrence between its range and certain geological regions. Geologists have divided the state into several rather well-defined areas based on the underlying rock strata, elevation, and other factors. We have superimposed these areas upon the map. Most of the southern and western parts of the state is included in an area called the Mississippian or Pennyroyal Plateau. On the north this area is bounded by a prominent escarpment known as Muldraugh's Hill, where the partially eroded margin of the plateau produces a belt of Knobs. On the east it is bounded by the Cumberland Plateau or the Eastern Kentucky Mountains. It may be noted on the map that the northern and eastern boundary of the Mississippian Plateau corresponds almost exactly with the northern limits of the winter range of the Bewick's Wren.

There is a growing body of evidence that Muldraugh's Hill marks an important boundary between the north-central and the southern parts of Kentucky. The soils of the Bluegrass area north of the escarpment are rich in phosphorus, whereas those south of it are poorer in this important ingredient and are more acid. This difference is reflected in crop production and may partially explain differences in the native flora and fauna. A nesting bird which is common in the Mississippian Plateau area and rare north of it is the Chuck-will's-widow.

Between this plateau and the Cumberland Plateau the climate and vegetation are even more different. Here in the mountains are southern extensions of such northern plants as the wintergreen, trailing arbutus, upland huckleberry, Indian cucumber-root, hemlock, white pine; and here nest southern races of many northern birds, such as the Junco, the Winter Wren, and the Black-throated Green Warbler.

The Mississippi Embayment region contains a large number of southern plants and animals, including birds, which find their northern limits in or near this area. For example, a common tree is the Bald Cypress, and among the birds are the Egret, the Double-crested Cormorant, and the Water-Turkey. Here, too, is the northern limit of the range of the Cottonmouth Moccasin.

We hope that this paper will stimulate further observations upon the winter range and habits of the Bewick's Wren and that some ornithologist will discover the ecologic factors which control its distribution.

* * * * * *

SHORT NOTES

Albino Mockingbird—We had an Albino Mockingbird with us this season. It was a male, and his mate was the regular pattern for the modest female. The pair established their home in a grape arbor in the garden of J. R. Sorrls, one mile from town. When I studied him, the young had just left the nest. He was very busy protecting his young and seemed as proud of them as if they had been as white as he. He had snow-white plumage, with pink eyes, pink feet, pink bill.

—DR. T. ATCHISON FRAZER, Marion.

* * * * * *

Edward M. Ray, formerly our secretary-treasurer, is now a First Lieutenant in the Army Air Cops and is located at Santa Ana, California.

Otis Allen, formerly science teacher in Bowling Green High School, is now located at Greenwood, Mississippi.

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Dorothy Hobson was Park Naturalits for the summer at Clifty Falls State Park, Madison, Indiana. She conducted bird and other nature hikes and gave talks on the natural history of the park.

Dr. William M. Clay taught a class in Ornithology this summer at the University of Louisville. Two of his students, John Miller and Nancy Scott, have recently joined the K. O. S.

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The annual Cuckoo Party of the Beckham Bird Club was held Monday evening, June 1, in the lodge at Iroquois Park. All the assembled "birds" were given ration cards for worms, called before the selective service boards of Cuckoo County, and required to fill out a special questionnaire.

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JUNIOR ACADEMY WINNING ESSAYS

We are printing below the winning essays in our first year's contest open to members of the Kentucky Junior Academy of Science. Each of the winners was given $2.50 and a year's membership in the Kentucky Ornithological Society.

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THE HOODED MERGANSER

By WARREN SIGHTS, Tilghman High School, Paducah

Hooded Mergansers are pretty little fish ducks that you see on wooded lakes and streams. The males have a high white crest edged with black. The breast has a double collar mark on it; the rest of the body is black and white. The female is a brownish sawbill with a clear white breast, not smudged as is the Red-breasted Merganser. These birds, like other mergansers, fly with the body parallel to the earth. There is no crest visible while the birds are in flight.

The nest is placed in a hollow tree or an old deserted woodpecker nest. I found a nest on May 18, 1941, about five hundred yards below "Red" Boyette's landing at Reelfoot Lake, Tennessee. It was about ten feet above the surface of the water and was in a partially hollow tree. The eggs were laid about the middle of April and would have been eaten by a snake if I had not happened along. When I put my hand into the nest to count the eggs, I felt the snake, which later dropped out of a lower hole in the tree. There were fourteen eggs in the nest, a little larger than hen's eggs. It took them nearly five weeks to hatch.

The young were active a few hours after hatching, although they had no wing feathers. I have not yet found out how they got from the tree down to the water, unless the mother duck carried them in her bill or between her feet. As to whether the drake helps with the incubation or rearing the brood I do not know. I have never seen him in the vicinity of the nest or of the mother and baby ducklings.

The ducklings are sooty black, with a few grayish white spots. They are able to take care of themselves from the start. After a few weeks they have grown wing feathers and can literally outrun an outboard motor driven by a 2.5 horsepower motor. They can keep this up for about five hundred yards; then they begin to tire, but they can still outswim the boat under water. During this time the mother sticks with them, but after they get scattered, she pulls the old "broken wing" trick to lure one away.

These ducks have never been very high on the sportsman's list because they are usually too fishy, but sometimes they are quite palatable. They are hard ducks to hit on the wing.

LIFE STORY OF A HOUSE WREN

By CHRISTINE KINNAIRD, Paint Lick High School

Birds are a marvelous subject to study. I wish to tell you a very interesting and true experience that I had last spring in watching a House Wren rear its young.

One afternoon about the first of May I was sitting on the porch of my home when I heard the loud, ringing voice of a bird close by. I looked up and saw a tiny brown and gray bird with a short, turned-up tail sitting on a box near me. As soon as it saw me, it flew away. I went over to see what the bird was doing there and found a few twigs in the box. The next day I went to the box again and was surprised to find a large pile of sticks and strings and all sorts of twigs. I could not imagine how they all got there in just one day. It did not seem possible that those tiny little birds carried them there. I watched patiently each day as the nest grew, until after the fifth day the nest was lined with soft, downy feathers. The two little birds worked busily until the nest was completed. On the sixth day there appeared a tiny, purplish brown egg in the nest. Such an interesting thing it was to find each day another egg added to the nest, until there were seven eggs in the little nest!

The next day I went to the nest and found the bird sitting on the eggs. I slipped quietly away, and never went very close to the nest for the next two weeks. I watched it closely each day and saw one of the birds feeding the other on the nest. They would not leave the nest alone for very long. One of the birds would generally guard the nest while the other went for food.

When the two weeks were up, I was looking forward to seeing the little birds. I watched the nest until I saw the mother bird leave. I slipped up to the nest and found that three of the eggs had hatched into tiny living birds. I hurried away when I heard the sound of the mother bird coming. The next day all the eggs had hatched.

For several days I enjoyed seeing the busy birds feeding the young. When they brought a worm, the small birds opened their mouths. The mother bird tore the worm into small pieces before feeding the little ones. Soon the nest began to be crowded as the birds grew and feathered out. I watched the little wings and the tail feathers develop. It took about two weeks after the birds hatched for them to grow into adults.

I watched the nest closely because I knew they were going to leave it soon and go out into the open world. It happened early one morning that I heard the flight and their chirping voices as they were leaving the nest. The mother and father were teaching them to fly short distances at a time. They stayed in the yard until they could fly better, and I never saw them again. I got the little nest in which they had matured, and that is a reminder of the little wren family.

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THIRD WILDLIFE CONFERENCE AT OTTER CREEK

By HELEN PEIL

The Third Kentucky Wildlife and Natural History Conference was held on September 25, 26, and 27, 1942, at Otter Creek Recreational Demonstration Area near West Point, Kentucky. Of the 97 persons registered 31 were members of the K. O. S. There were seven groups that cooperated in making this conference a success:

the Natural History Club, the Beckham Bird Club, the Kentucky Ornithological Society, the Astronomical Society, the Municipal Hiking Club, the League of Kentucky Sportsmen, and the National Park Service.

Dr. Walter L. Moore, of the University of Louisville, presided at the first session of the conference on Friday night. H. O. Hesen showed interesting movies of "Fish Rescue Work;" Audrey Wright, K. O. S. member, showed kodachrome slides of "Fall Flowers;" and Dr. Moore showed a brief movie, "Exploring the Universe." There was opportunity for astronomical observation under the able guidance of Charles Strull. To everyone's disappointment, the "Banana-Beer Hunt," which David Young was to conduct, could not be held because of the weather. Several of us are still wondering what a banana-beer hunt is, and we are looking forward to having another opportunity to be initiated into its mysteries.

Saturday morning started out early, but not bright, with a bird hike at 6:30, led by Helen Peil. The weather was cloudy and a little chilly, but eleven enthusiasts arose to the occasion. The list of birds seen is combined with the list compiled by Evelyn Schneider, who led the bird hike in even worse weather at 6:30 on Sunday morning.

The meeting on Saturday morning was presided over by Dr. Harvey Lovell, K. O. S. president. Among the many excellent talks were several of special interest to bird students. Dr. Alfred Brauer, of the University of Kentucky, in his lecture on "Social Behavior in Animals," presented some interesting information concerning the reasons for the disappearance of the Passenger Pigeon and the Heath Hen. Apparently inbreeding among the small numbers of birds left after so many had been slaughtered by hunters caused a deterioration in the two species which helped bring about their extinction.

At the Saturday afternoon meeting Dr. P. A. Davies, of the University of Louisville, presided. Of special interest, because they pertained to bird life, were James J. Gilpin's movng pictures and Tom Wallace's talk on "The Importance of Habitat." Mr. Gilpin's pictures of the Mourning Dove, the Bob-white, and the Killdeer, as well as of other birds, are available to groups that would like to show them anywhere in the state. Mr. Wallace never fails to score impressively when he speaks so convincingly and practically about conservation.

Mr. F. C. Bunce, of the National Park Service, whose work with the Otter Creek Recreational Area has contributed toward making the wildlife conferences not only possible but eminently successful, spoke on "Conservation for Interpretation." He mentioned particularly that with many men in the armed forces, women must take over the work these men were doing in conservation.

The "Stump the Experts" program, under the direction of Kent Previette, interlocutor, was an outstanding feature of the entire conference. The experts were not even stumped by the elements, which conspired to send such a deluge as had seldom endeavored to quench the unquenchable enthusiasm of bird students. Prizes were awarded to those who succeeded in asking the experts questions which stumped them. Not many prizes were awarded, although the questions were on the most difficult and baffling biological, botanical, geological, and astronomical subjects.

David Young presided at the Saturday night session, at which H. K. Gayle, of the Soil Conservation Service, Lexington, gave much useful information concerning plants that should be used to provide food and cover for birds. The feature of the meeting was an illustrated lecture on "Butterfly Geography," by Dr. William T. M. Forbes, of Cornell University, who was a guest of the conference, having been brought here especially for this occasion. He opened new fields of thought for many of us concerning the possibilities and the value of the study of butterflies. Dr. Forbes's charming personality and friendly interest in all of the conference activities contributed much to everyone's enjoyment.

Sunday morning was devoted to field trips for ornithologists led by Evelyn Schneider, for geologists led by Colonel Lucien Beckner, for botanists led by S. Charles Thacher, and for entomologists led by David Young.

The conference closed at dinner on Sunday, after a comprehensive summary ably presented by Mrs. Alice Moore.

Before closing this report, I would like to recommend these conferences to every K. O. S. member as being well worth the time, money, and effort needed to attend them. Kentucky needs more such conferences to enlist people in conservation work. Every one has a perfectly grand time and makes many new friends interested in conserving Kentucky's natural and wildlife resources.

The following K. O. S. members attended the 1942 conference: Mrs. J. Kidwell Grannis, Flemingsburg; Grace Wyatt, Murray; Dr. John Bangson, Berea; Colonel Lucien Beckner, Mrs. Mame Boulware, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Brecher, Helen Browning, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Bunce, Dr. William Clay, Dr. Arch Cole, Dr. P. A. Davies, Amy Deane, Elizabeth and Gertrude Gadjen, Thelma Gentry, Karl Kerbel, Dr. Harvey Lovell, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Mattmiller, Mrs. Alice Moore, Dorothy and Helen Peil, Kent Previette, Evelyn Schneider, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Dorothy Sternberg, Charles Strull, S. Charles Thacher, Audrey Wright, and Mary May Wyman, all of Louisville.

Birds seen on the two trips were as follows: Double-crested Cormorant, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Osprey, Bob-white, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Phoebe, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Bluebird, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, White-eyed Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Palm Warbler, English Sparrow, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Goldfinch, Red-eyed Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

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Here is a suggestion for a Christmas present for your friends and relatives—give them a subscription to the KENTUCKY WARBLER. Last year several members inaugurated this gift plan, which seems certain to become popular this year. Heavy Christmas packages add to the burden of our transportation system. A subscription to the WARBLER will be a reminder to your friends throughout the coming year and at the same time will aid the cause of bird study. We will send a fancy card announcing the gift subscription to anyone requesting it.

SUMMER BIRDS IN MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK

By GORDON WILSON

Though I have studied birds in the Mammoth Cave National Park persistently for the last six years and have spent in that time more than a hundred days in the area, I had not done any continuous study of nesting birds until June, 1942. Generally, before tires became so precious, I went away to the Great Smokies, or Florida, or the Atlantic coast to spend the week between the second semester and the summer term. This year Russell Starr, medical student at the University of Louisville, and I spent from June 9 to June 14, inclusive, in various parts of the park, camping at night and wandering everywhere by day, always on the lookout for nesting birds and young. Our most interesting area was Mammoth Cave Ridge itself, where we found in a single day 69 species of birds, including all 16 of the nesting warblers. All told, we found 81 species in the six days, besides 6 other species just beyond the park boundaries. I am listing below the species we found, indicating their relative abundance and starring the ones found nesting or feeding young:

Green Heron, r; Turkey Vulture, fc; Black Vulture, fc; *Red-tailed Hawk, r; Red-shouldered Hawk, r; Broad-winged Hawk, r; Sparrow Hawk, r; *Bob-white, c; Mourning Dove, c; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, c; Great Horned Owl, r; Barred Owl, r; Chuck-will's-widow, r; Whip-poor-will, fc; Nighthawk, r; Chimney Swift, fc; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, c; Flicker, fc; Pileated Woodpecker, fc; Red-bellied Woodpecker, r; Red-headed Woodpecker, r; Hairy Woodpecker, r; Downy Woodpecker, fc; Kingbird, fc; Crested Flycatcher, c; Phoebe, fc; Acadian Flycatcher, c; Wood Pewee, c; Rough-winged Swallow, r; Barn Swallow, r; Purple Martin, fc; Blue Jay, c; *Crow, c; Carolina Chickadee, fc; Tufted Titmouse, c; *White-breasted Nuthatch, fc; Bewick's Wren, fc; Carolina Wren, c; Mockingbird, r; *Catbird, c; Brown Thrasher, fc; Robin, fc; Wood Thrush, c; Bluebird, c; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, c; Starling, fc; White-eyed Vireo, c; Yellow-throated Vireo, c; Red-eyed Vireo, c; *Black and White Warbler, c; *Prothonotary Warbler, fc; Worm-eating Warbler, fc; Blue-winged Warbler, r; *Parula Warbler, r; Yellow Warbler, fc; *Cerulean Warbler, fc; Sycamore Warbler, fc; *Prairie Warbler, c; Oven-bird, c; Louisiana Water-thrush, c; *Kentucky Warbler, c; Northern Yellowthroat, c; Yellow-breasted Chat, c; Hooded Warbler, c; *Redstart, c; English Sparrow, fc; Meadowlark, fc; *Red-winged Blackbird, c; Orchard Oriole, c; Baltimore Oriole, r; Bronzed Grackle, fc; *Cowbird, c (young being fed at First Creek Lake by Black and White Warbler); Scarlet Tanager, c; Summer Tanager, c; Cardinal, c; Indigo Bunting, c; Goldfinch, c; Towhee, c; Bachman's Sparrow, r; *Chipping Sparrow, c; Field Sparrow, c.

This list and the abundance of each species make one realize how much the area is changing since the farms were acquired and the woods have started coming back. There are several species formerly seen in summer in the area that do not appear on this list and most of them on none of my summer lists for the park area: Wood Duck, found several times with broods on Barren River near Bowling Green in June and July, 1942; Cooper's Hawk, found near the park but not inside; Killdeer, found near but not inside the park; Spotted Sandpiper, fc at Bowling Green; Screech Owl, found later in the summer in the park on Mammoth Cave Ridge; Belted Kingfisher, found regularly on Barren River all the year; Prairie Horned Lark, found within a few yards of the Bownsville edge of the park; Migrant Shrike, regularly found at Bowling Green; Warbling Vireo, found nesting on Western's campus in May; Dickcissel, plentiful in meadows near the park; Grasshopper Sparrow, abundant not far from the park edge.

Of the species found in the park the following are much commoner in adjoining areas: Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Flicker, Barn Swallow, Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Starling, Yellow Warbler, English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Baltimore Oriole, Bronzed Grackle, Bachman's Sparrow. It is quite evident that many of these species are found more commonly in cultivated areas or around farm houses. I have been interested in watching these changes as the cultivated fields gradually grew up in broomsedge, then goldenrods, then blackberries, and finally bushes and young trees. Some years hence I hope to have another opportunity of spending a week in June in exactly the same area in order to check my 1942 list, to note changes, and to anticipate others.

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ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

According to Miss Nell Dishman, curator of the Audubon Memorial State Park, near Henderson, the park is located where John James Audubon discovered the great Passenger Pigeon roost which he describes so graphically in his ORNITHOLOGICAL BIOGRAPHIES. The surviving remnants of the once great beech forest were saved when the area was made a state park and bird sanctuary. The Audubon Museum is eager to have a list of birds found in the park area. Any members of the K. O. S. who visit the park are urged to compile the list and send it to the WARBLER for publication. The editor would be glad to receive lists from any of the state parks, the Cumberland National Forest, and other state or national parks, refuges, and monuments.

Back copies of the WARBLER are in great demand. as you can see by the excellent sale of back issues listed in our financial report. We have sold more than $20.00 worth in the last three months. As we are short of many issues, members having back copies which they do not care to keep will do the K. O. S. a great favor by sending them to Mrs. F. Everett Frei, Glasgow, or Miss Evelyn Schneider, 2207 Alta, Louisville. We are entirely out of the No. 1 issue for 1941 and have two orders waiting for it. Thirty-five cents will be paid to any one sending us a copy of this issue.

Robert M. Mengel is now in Company D, 1213 R. R., Fort Niagara, New York.

Virgil D. King is in the Army Air Forces at Patterson Field, Fairfield, Ohio. He can be reached at his permanent address, R. R. 2, Henderson. Mr. King, our former secretary-treasurer, was married on June 30; his wife teaches art at North Bergen, New Jersey.

The Glasgow Bird Club has purchased a S. V. E. slide projector.

Esther Mason writes that the following are the current officers of the Beckham Bird Club: Mrs. F. W. Stamm, President; Esther Mason, Vice-President; Helen Browning, Secretary-Treasurer.

James Boswell Young is now with F. B. I.

Carlyle Chamberlain is in the Artillery at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Burt Monroe, our former president, is in the Air Service on the Pacific Coast. The editor's last word from him came from the state of Washington.

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Glasgow—The June meeting of the Glasgow Bird Club was held in the grove belonging to Mr. and Mrs. H. Cal Rogers. The outdoor program of games, bird quiz, etc. was climaxed by playing of the Brand Album of Bird Songs, loaned by the Beckham Bird Club. . . . Clayton Gooden has joined the Signal Corps of the Army and is now in Fort Benjamin Harrison; Kenneth Pace has signed up in the Navy and is at the Great Lakes Training Center; both are members of the Glasgow Bird Club . . . The newly elected officers of the Glasgow Club are—President, H. Cal Rogers; Vice-President, Mrs. F. Everett Frei; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Nelson Nuckols; Councillors: Mrs. J. Wood Vance, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Jones; the offices will assume their authority in January, 1943.

Roger Barbour, formerly with the Division of Fish and Game, is now instructor in biology in the Western Kentucky State Teachers College, replacing Ezell Welborn, who has joined the F. B. I.

John A. Patten is now to be addressed as follows:

Pvt. John A. Patten, S. C. R. T. C., Co. C, 38Bn., Camp Crowder, Missouri.

Mrs. Z. C. Layson, a new member of the K. O. S., is at present Bird Chairman of the National Council of Garden Clubs.

Our Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. F. Everett Frei, has recently been spreading some of the spirit of the K. O. S. in our neighboring state of Indiana. On October 12 she spoke on her bird-banding experiences before the history department of the Evansville Museum, illustrating her talk with slides. She appeared on Radio Station WEOA that same day on a ten-minute talk. Also during her visit in Indiana she spoke on "How to Attract Birds" before the Ladies Auxiliary of the O. R. C.

Members omitted in our last list or added as new since then (see Summer Issue, 1942, pp. 41-44):

Baker, G. F., Supt. Woodlands Refuge, Golden Pond.
Bangson, Dr. John S., Berea College, Berea.
Barnhill, Mrs. Mary E., Teachers College, Richmond.
Beatty, Guy V., Glasgow.
Beck, Albert, Lake Dreamland, Shivley.
Crabb, Nellie I., Berea.
Daniels, Alice, 2344 Valley Vista, Louisville.
Faust, Ruth, Berea College, Berea.
Floyd, Nellie I., Berea College Library, Berea.
Gilpin, James, Supt. of Public Relations, Game and Fish, Frankfort.
Glover, T. Harold, Teachers College, Richmond.
Grannis, Mrs. J. Kidwell, Flemingsburg.
Gross, Dr. Alfred O., 11 Broady Street, Brunswick, Maine.
Hall, Dr. Edmond K., U. of L. Medical School, Louisville.
Hicks, Dr. Lawrence E., Wild Life Research Station, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.
Isfort, Louise G., 1402 Cherokee Road, Louisville.
Layson, Mrs. Z. C., Maysville.
Mengel, Robert, care A. D. Allen, Glenview.
McBride, Mrs. Charles E., 2200 Alta, Louisville.
McCanna, Mrs. R. W., Willow Terrace Apartments, 1412 Willow Avenue, Louisville.
National Audubon Society, 1006 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York.
Neale, Mrs. Geoffrey, 1072 Everett Avenue, Louisville.
Schnieb, Dr. Anna A., Teachers College, Richmond.
Selvey, Wilma, London.
Sutton, Dr. George Miksch, Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.
Thomas, Mrs. Ben Allen, Chenoweth Farm, Shelbyville.
Tucker, Mrs. Carll, Penwood, Mt. Kisco, New York.
Vaughn, Mrs. Nelle B., Superintendent of State Parks, Glasgow.
Wright, Bessie L., 537 West Second, Lexington.
Wyatt, Grace, Teachers College, Murray.

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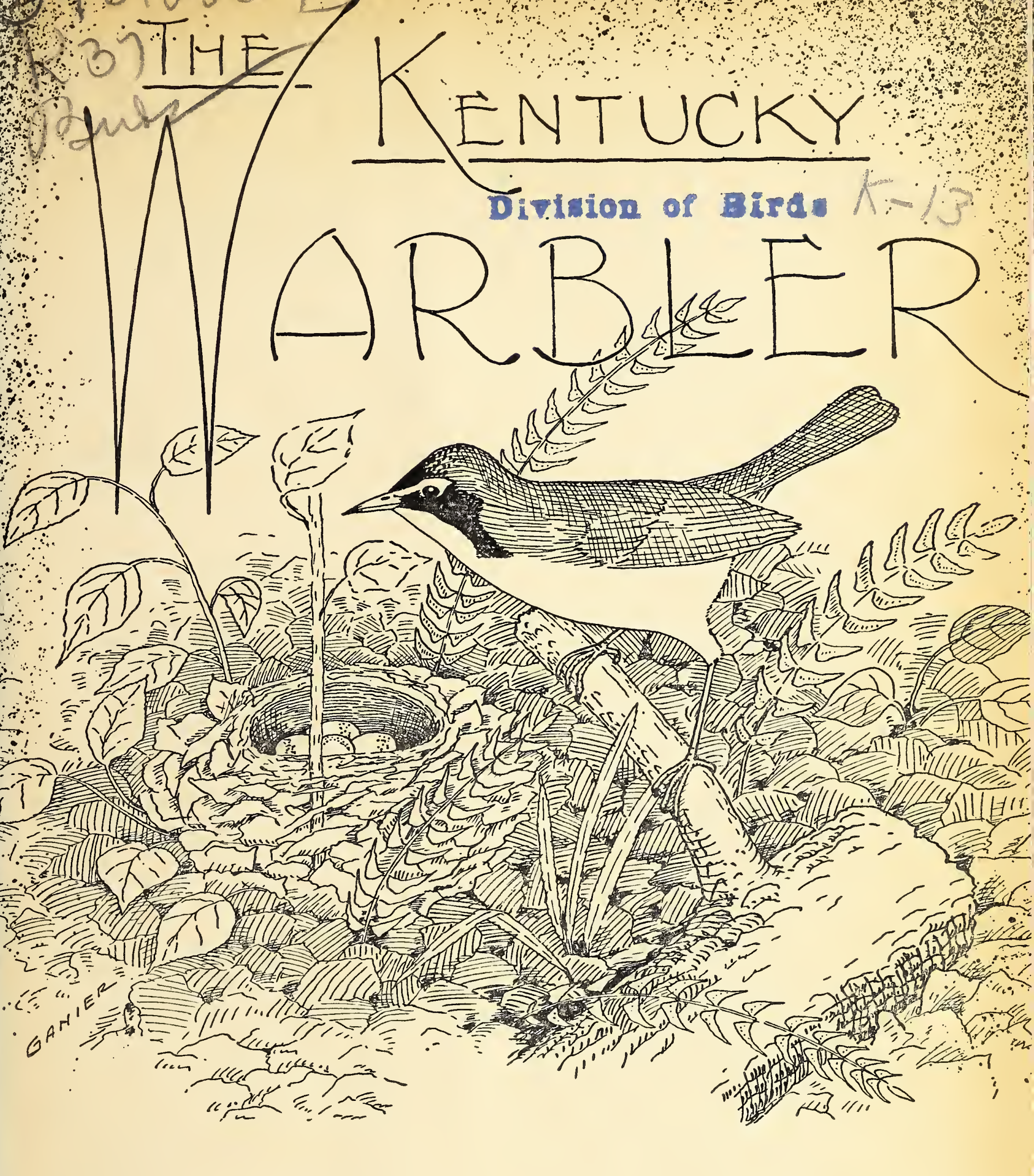
THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Division of Birds K-13



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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
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NATIONAL MUSEUM

. . . The . . .
Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

VOL. XIX WINTER, 1943 NO. 1

A WEEKEND AT WOODLANDS

Early on Saturday morning, October 31, 1942, six of us K. O. S. members entered the Kentucky Woodlands National Wildlife Refuge for what turned out to be one of the most successful and enjoyable trips any of us had taken. The previous night, as we drove down, was very stormy and rainy, but Saturday and Sunday were ideal days for walking and bird study. We first went down the ridge road from Golden Pond to the Headquarters, making numerous stops to observe the large bird population in the old fields and in the woods proper. After lunch in the open at Headquarters we were led by Superintendent G. F. Baker, on an exploring expedition that embraced two of the four lakes in the area. We found plenty of water birds, to supplement the good land-bird list already made on the ridges. Besides, we got to see a few deer, for which this area has long been famous. Late in the afternoon we returned to Pete Light Spring, a tourist camp some four miles east of Cumberland River. There we had dinner and spent the night, taking off again for the Woodlands quite early in the morning. We devoted most of our time to the largest lake, near the Headquarters at Hematite, finding even more water species than on the preceding day. After walking the full length of the lake, we went to several places where turkeys had been seen by Mr. Baker that day or recently, but again we were disappointed at not seeing any; we had to console ourselves by inspecting their tracks in the soft mud. After stopping at Pete Light Spring for lunch, we returned home, elated at having had such a delightful weekend in one of the treasurehouses of nature in Kentucky.

Here is a list of the birds we recorded on the two days: Pied-billed Grebe, 10; Double-crested Cormorant, 6; Canada Goose, 3; Mallard, 100; Black Duck, 35; Wood Duck, 100; Ring-necked Duck, 30; Hooded Merganser, 2 males; Red-breasted Merganser, 6; Turkey Vulture, c; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Bob-white, 1; Coot, 200; Woodcock, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 3; Flicker, fc; Pileated Woodpecker, fc; Red-bellied Woodpecker, fc; Red-headed Woodpecker, c; Downy Woodpecker, fc; Phoebe, 1; Blue Jay, c; Crow, c; Carolina Chickadee, c; Tufted Titmouse, c; Brown Creeper, 3; Winter Wren, 4; Carolina Wren, fc; Mockingbird, 1; Robin, c; Hermit Thrush, 4; Bluebird, c; Golden-crowned Kinglet, c; Cedar Waxwing, 5; Starling, 3; Myrtle Warbler, c; English Sparrow, c; Meadowlark, 10; Bronzed Grackle, 25-30; Cardinal, fc; Purple Finch, 1; Goldfinch, fc; Towhee, 10; Savannah Sparrow, 1; Slate-colored Junco, a; Tree Sparrow, 10; Field Sparrow, c; White-throated Sparrow, a; Fox Sparrow, 1;

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Lincoln's Sparrow, 1; Swamp Sparrow, c; Song Sparrow, c. Total, 52 species, thousands of individuals.

—Mr. and Mrs. S. Charles Thacher, Evelyn J. Schneider, Audrey Wright, Harvey Lovell, and Gordon Wilson.

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NOTES FROM WOODLANDS

It may be of interest to you to know that near Lake 1, which we visited the first afternoon the Louisville-Bowling Green party were here, State Conservation Officer Hudson counted 110 turkeys in one flock on November 11. The other day (the letter to the editor was written December 14) over 6,000 ducks were estimated to be on the refuge lakes. Nearly all species were represented . . . I was greatly surprised to observe the number of acorns that a turkey could hold in its crop at a given time. Last week a dead turkey was found on the refuge. We counted 64 small acorns in its crop. There was a small amount of grass also. We believe the death of the turkey was probably due to overindulgence in acorns at one time.

—GERALD F. BAKER, Refuge Manager.

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THE BACHMAN'S SPARROW IN KENTUCKY

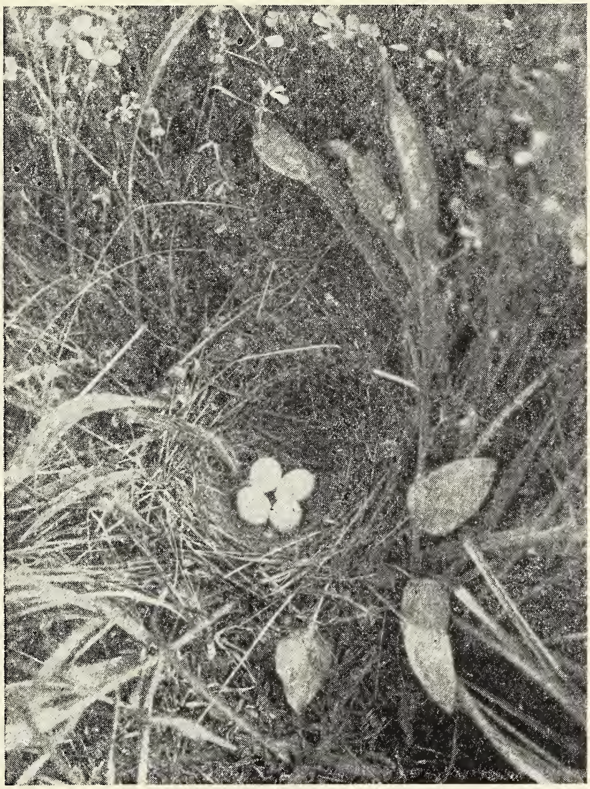
By BURT L. MONROE and ROBERT M. MENGEL, Louisville

One of the most obscure and little known of our sparrows is the Bachman's Sparrow (**Aimophila aestivalis bachmani Audubon**). This is the northern race of the Pine Woods Sparrow, the only eastern species of the interesting and nondescript sparrows of the ground-living **Aimophila.** All are characterized by more or less distinctive songs, some of which are very sweet. The Bachman's Sparrow is no exception in this respect. Its song is somewhat like that of the Field Sparrow (**Spizella pusilla**) but is more varied and sibilant. Also its vocal efforts seem to be somewhat concentrated into the hours of early morning and late evening, a tendency not evident in the Field Sparrow.

The distribution of the Bachman's Sparrow in Kentucky as indicated by the available records is rather spotty. This probably does not adequately represent the range or abundance of the species, however, as it is a bird that may be easily overlooked. It likewise seems to exhibit a strong preference for a very definite type of habitat. The typical habitat of the bird, as presented by Maurice Brooks (1938), is practically identical with that occupied by the Bachman's Sparrows of our experience. Dr. Lawrence Hicks is quoted in Brooks's article as follows: "It is practically never found in a field until at least four years after cultivation has ceased. Also, it is practically confined to hill country, although it occurs in a few areas where the hills are relatively low . . . Usually it is found on those ridge tops which drop away sharply in a divide to either side . . . . A typical territory is a circle 150 feet each way from an eroded gully which has healed and is now well covered with miscellaneous trees, shrubs, and particularly blackberry brambles. The territory is more attractive after about five per cent of the open grass lands adjacent to the gullies are dotted with blackberry briars. Usually the center of the territory is close to the upper end of the gully, and the abundant plants are the dry-soil goldenrods and asters, wild oat grass (**Danthonia spicata**), and various other grasses, composites, and miscellaneous weeds typical of dry eroded slopes."

Summer records of the Bachman's Sparrow come from a number of counties in Kentucky. Cooke (1914) cites arrival dates at Eubank for seven years, the earliest being March 26, 1889, the average date being April 6. Singing birds were recorded in Laurel County on

July 2-9, 1939, by the junior author (Mengel, 1939) and in Union County by Monroe and Mengel, July 7, 1940. Dr. Wilson lists summer records for five additional localities on the following authorities: Reelfoot Lake, as reported by A. F. Ganier, "Uncommon;" Bowling Green, as reported by himself, "Fairly Common;" Glasgow, as reported by Mr. and Mrs. F. Everett Frei and Mr. H. Cal Rogers, "Fairly common;" Bardstown, as reported by Blincoe (1925) "Fairly common;" and Berea, as reported by John A. Patten, "Fairly common." Wilson (1941) also reports that Bachman's Sparrows were fairly common summer residents in old fields in the Mammoth Cave National Park. Finally, Dr. Alexander Wetmore (1940) records a male bird collected near Brandenburg, Meade County, on April 21, 1938. At Bowling Green the earliest date of arrival, according to the records of Wilson, was March 26, 1921; the average date, April 15; the average date of departure, August 5.



Our own records from Jefferson County, where we have observed the species in two areas, extend from April 1 to August 25. Two fully grown juvenal specimens were taken July 17, 1939, by Mengel and deposited in Monroe's collection. Two nests of this sparrow have been found in Jefferson County. So far as we are aware, these are the only ones which have been discovered in Kentucky. On June

26, 1929, the senior author found a nest containing four eggs at the edge of an old orchard near Middletown. The nest was slightly arched over and was placed on the ground among briars and thick grass. It was located by watching one of the birds carrying food, presumably to its mate. In 1935 another nest was found by Monroe in Indian Hills near Louisville, on June 18. This nest contained four pure white eggs in an advanced stage of incubation and was not arched over. It was found by watching the bird approach it. After being photographed **in situ** (see illustration) by Mrs. L. G. Hobson, the nest and eggs were collected and deposited in Monroe's collection.

The eggs have the following dimensions in mm: 21x15.8, 20.2x16, 20.2x15.5, and 22x16. They are much larger at one end and taper appreciably toward the smaller end. The outside dimensions of the nest were 140 mm across by 48 mm in thickness; the cavity was 57 mm across by 28 mm in depth. The nest was well built of coarse grass placed directly on the ground. A single leaf was woven in with the grass. The nest was lined with a thick layer of the fine panicles of grass inflorescence from which all the florets had been removed. There were no signs of hair or leaves in the lining of the nest. So closely was it set into the turf that the surrounding tufts of grass roots were collected with the nest. Two clusters of a legume (sweet clover) which had been growing on either side of the nest had been pulled in together, forming a thin canopy over the nest. This, perhaps, replaced the dome which earlier writers have so universally ascribed to the Bachman's Sparrow's nest. The edges of the nest proper were uniformly low on all sides.

SUMMARY: One of our least known birds is the Bachman's Sparrow. Its distribution in Kentucky appears to be spotty, but it may be more common than present records indicate. It is an easily overlooked species. At least two nests have been found in Kentucky, both in Jefferson County by the senior author, June 26, 1929, and June 18, 1935.

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OBSERVATIONS ON THE FOOD OF BIRDS IN BARREN COUNTY

By the late H. Cal Rogers

(Edited by H. B. Lovell from correspondence with Mr. Rogers)

For several years I have been making a list of natural bird foods in Barren County. I have observed ten kinds of birds eating sumac berries, eight kinds eating dogwood berries, nine eating wild mulberries, and eight eating wild cherries. Other favorite foods include elderberry, wild grape, hackberry, pokeberry, and poison ivy. On December 1, 1941, Clayton Gooden and I stopped at the Lincoln Memorial near Hodgenville and took a short hike over the grounds. During that time we noted that the white and blue ash seeds were a fine bird food. The Carolina Chickadees and Tufted Titmice were very busy gathering the fruits and taking them to nearby perches, where they pulled out the seeds. A partial list of my observations are presented below:

Flowering Dogwood: Mockingbird, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Robin, Cardinal, Cedar Waxwing.

Pokeberries: Bluebird, Robin, Mockingbird, Catbird, Thrasher.

Hackberries: Robin, Cedar Waxwing, all the woodpeckers, Blue Jay, Bronzed Grackle.

Mulberries: Crow, Blue Jay, Robin, Bluebird, Catbird, Mockingbird, all the woodpeckers, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Chickadee.

Black Gum: Robin, woodpeckers, Bronzed Grackle.

Beechnuts: Woodpeckers, Blue Jay, Bronzed Grackle, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse.

Poison Ivy Berries: Goldfinch, Nuthatch, Chickadee, Myrtle Warbler.

Wild Cherries: Robin, Bluebird, Mockingbird, Woodpeckers, Nuthatch, Tufted Titmouse, Cedar Waxwing, Cardinal.

Sumac: Mockingbird, Bluebird, Cardinal, Pileated and other woodpeckers, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Starling, Bronzed Grackle, Nuthatch.

Elderberries: Robin, Mockingbird, Cardinal, Starling, Summer Tanager, Cedar Waxwing, woodpeckers.

Wild Grape: Mockingbird, Cardinal, Carolina Chickadee, Nuthatch, Cedar Waxwing.

Buckbush or Coralberries: Purple Finch, Bob-white.

Trumpet Vine: Goldfinch.

Thistles: Goldfinch.

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Albino Thrasher—While making my R. F. D. route a few days ago (June, 1942), I saw a beautiful white bird fly across the road. Knowing that it must be a freak of nature, I stopped my car and investigated. It proved to be a Brown Thrasher because I saw him again three days later with normally colored Thrashers and saw that he was shaped perfectly like them. The children in the house near by told me that they had seen the bird every day for a long time.

—BEN F. OATES, Carrier No. 1, Greenville.

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Bank Swallows Nesting at Louisville—On July 12, Burt Monroe and I dug out and banded some young Bank Swallows. So there is no longer any doubt about their nesting in Jefferson County. We also saw a Duck Hawk along the Ohio River. Do you suppose it also nests here?

—HARVEY B. LOVELL, Louisville.

1942 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

	Paducah	Marion	Henderson	Bowling Green	Glasgow	Otter Creek	Louisville	Cynthiana	Berea	John's Run
1. Great Blue Heron		1		1						
2. Mallard		38		10		20	10	14		
3. Black Duck				10		3				
4. Baldpate							1			
5. Green-winged Teal				x						
6. Wood Duck				x						
7. Lesser Scaup	5									
8. Hooded Merganser				x						
9. American Merganser		1		x			8			
10. Red-breasted Merganser				x						
11. Turkey Vulture		1	2	x	9			17	4	
12. Black Vulture			1	x	6	19	1	4		
13. Sharp-shinned Hawk		2		2						
14. Cooper's Hawk		2		1	1		x			
15. Red-tailed Hawk		4	2	x			1			
16. Red-shouldered Hawk				1			3			
17. Rough-legged Hawk		1								
18. Golden Eagle		2								
19. Bald Eagle							1			
20. Marsh Hawk	1	6		1			3			
21. Duck Hawk		1								
22. Sparrow Hawk	2	10	4	4	2	1	16		1	
23. Bob-White	8	42		11		10	x		5	
24. Coot		1								
25. Killdeer		1		x						
26. Herring Gull	7	22					10			
27. Ring-billed Gull							1			
28. Mourning Dove	3	90	5	152	2		66	1	2	10
29. Screech Owl		2								
30. Barred Owl	1			1		1				
31. Belted Kingfisher		1		1		1	3			
32. Flicker	6	14	9	8	12	5	10	1		
33. Pileated Woodpecker		5		5	1	x				
34. Red-bellied Woodpecker		2	5	7	7	2	11			
35. Red-headed Woodpecker	5	1	2	12			1		5	
36. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		2	1	x	1	1				
37. Hairy Woodpecker		2	1	3	1	1	4	1		3
38. Downy Woodpecker	1	64	16	27	9	1	14	2	1	1
39. Phoebe				x						
40. Prairie Horned Lark		16	22	101	12					
41. Blue Jay	11	21	16	39	27	4	40		35	
42. Crow	2	1500	200	604	1138	42	75	49	195	9
43. Carolina Chickadee	8	300	28	126	31	22	58	19		6
44. Tufted Titmouse	5	60	10	94	21	12	46	4	5	6
45. White-breasted Nuthatch				x		1	9		1	1
46. Brown Creeper				8		x	21		2	
47. Winter Wren				2	1					1
48. Bewick's Wren	1	3	1	4						

1942 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT (Continued)

	Paducah	Marion	Henderson	Bowling Green	Glasgow	Otter Creek	Louisville	Cynthiana	Berea	John's Run
49. Carolina Wren	3	2	3	30	17	6	12	10	2	8
50. Mockingbird	10	21	4	18	4	1	24	11	1	
51. Robin	2			1	58	x	8	11		
52. Hermit Thrush				2						
53. Bluebird	1	48	13	51	7	4	22		7	13
54. Golden-crowned Kinglet				13	2	1	12		1	3
55. Ruby-crowned Kinglet				4						
56. Pipit		250		10						
57. Cedar Waxwing	22	14		2	6	x				
58. Migrant Shrike	1			1			3			
59. Starling	22	700	300	91	43	1	10602	47	8	
60. Myrtle Warbler				26	7	2				
61. Pine Warbler				1						
62. English Sparrow	49	x	80	690	26		82	60	15	30
63. Meadowlark	3	26	21	95	8		32			26
64. Red-winged Blackbird				x						
65. Rusty Blackbird				x						
63. Bronzed Grackle		46					1		7	
67. Cowbird		26	12	x						
68. Cardinal	25	220	46	169	30	50	145	18	5	31
69. Purple Finch	3			1	6	6				
70. Goldfinch	21	15		37	14	40	30	6	2	16
71. Towhee	3	12	2	13	24	6	5		6	7
72. Vesper Sparrow		4								
73. Lark Sparrow								8*		
74. Slate-colored Junco	39	300	37	410	86	40	137	17	10	102
75. Tree Sparrow	3	90	170	73		10	18	11		6
76. Field Sparrow	16	12		61	8	2	7			29
77. White-crowned Sparrow	3	45	63	70	8		8	1	2	12
78. White-throated Sparrow		21		133	31	3	15	1		
79. Fox Sparrow		6		x	5	6				
80. Swamp Sparrow		12		2						
81. Song Sparrow	19	42	4	60	29	10	44	3	5	31

(The asterisk refers to further data in the summary following the tabulation. The letter x indicates that the species was recorded during the Christmas holidays but not on the census itself.)

* * * * * *

PADUCAH: December 31; 10:00 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. From Eastern Park Street and Barkley Park on Ohio River zigzagging along and across flood wall to its lower limit; back along Perkins Creek to Noble Park, C. C. C. camp, and Oaklawn Cemetery; returning by Western Park Street. Meadow, swamp, field, copse, pasture, grass waste, woodland, lawn, wooded park, and city lots. River lowlands under a record December flood. Frost and ice on ground; mostly sunny, with small drifting clouds; moderate to stiff breeze. Total 33 species, 312 individuals.

—A. L. PICKINS, Paducah Junior College.

MARION: December 25; 9:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Along the Ohio River below Cave-in-Rock and near Marion. Heavy fog; no wind; temp. 40. Observers separate. Total 54 species, 4132 individuals.

—CHASTAIN FRAZER AND DR. T. ATCHISON FRAZER.

(Several of the birds are new to us in Crittenden County; Chastain spent the entire day on the Ohio River below Cave-in-Rock and found some birds that I have not thought common in this area. We have had Bronzed Grackles all winter. A lone Great Blue Heron has been in the neighborhood of Goose Lake all the season. A Duck Hawk has been frequently seen about the Cave; Golden Eagles are rather commonly seen about Dam 50, Ford's Ferry, and the Cave. Pipits have never been identified here before but have often been found this winter in river-bottom cornfields. —DR. FRAZER).

HENDERSON: December 31; 9:00 A. M. to 2:00 P. M. C. E. King farm and adjoining land in Henderson County. Fair; gentle east wind; temp. 32 at start, 40 at return. Observers together; five miles on foot. Total 30 species, 1081 individuals. We should have also seen Bob-white, Goldfinch, Robin, Screech Owl, and Migrant Shrike but for some reason did not.

—VIRGIL D. AND EDITH TURNER KING, Patterson Field, Fairfield, Ohio.

BOWLING GREEN: December 20; 7:45 A. M. to 5:30 P. M. Cloudy; brisk north wind; temp. 24 all day; vegetation covered with sleet from storm of night before. Observers in three groups of two each; a total of 37 miles on foot, 21½ party hours. Total, 52 species, 3239 individuals. Species seen at other times in Christmas week raised our total to 68 species, the greatest record of our twenty-five successive censuses.

—Roger W. Barbour, B. C. Cole. L. Y, Lancaster, Charles L. Taylor, J. R. Whitmer, and Gordon Wilson (compiler), all of the Western Kentucky State Teachers College.

GLASGOW: December 27; 8:00 A. M. to 2:30 P. M. Beaver Creek area west of Glasgow. Cloudy; east to south wind, strong; rain drove me in. Temp. 60. Total, 37 species, 1703 individuals.

—RUSSELL STARR, Medical Student, University of Louisville.

OTTER CREEK: January 3; 11:40 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Light clouds and pale sun at noon changing to heavy clouds late in the afternoon; strong wind. Six observers in two groups; 8 hours afield, 12 party miles (8 on foot, 4 by car). Total, 33 species, 334 individuals. A Meadowlark was seen on the road just outside the area.

—Amy Deane, Vera Henderson, Harvey B. Lovell (compiler), Helen Peil, Dorothy Peil, S. Charles Thacher

(I am very familiar with the Black-capped Chickadee in Maine. Two of the chickadees that we saw at Otter Creek were very much like our ordinary Carolina but were larger in size and had conspicuous white edges to the wing feathers, producing a white area, especially when seen from the side. They were eating berries of the Dwarf Sumac (**Rhus copallina**). I saw similar large chickadees in Louisville a week before. I have been hoping to trap one, in which case I plan to make a skin of it and send it away to be checked. Do you know of any authentic records of the Black-capped in central Kentucky in winter? I have just been checking Chapman and others and find that northern Kentucky seems to be within its probable winter range. —HARVEY B. LOVELL).

LOUISVILLE: December 28; 8:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Ohio River to Twelve Mile Island; along Goose, Harrod's, and Pond Creeks; inland about ten miles. Partly cloudy in morning; heavy rain beginning at 1:00 P. M.; light wind; temp. 61 to 69. Nine observers in five groups; total hours afield, 27; total party miles, 61 (16 on foot, 45 by car). Total, 43 species, 11,620 individuals. Unidentified ducks, 500.

—Leonard Brecher, Mary Louise Brecher, Floyd S. Carpenter, Ethel W. Lovell, Harvey B. Lovell (compiler), Evelyn J. Schneider, Mabel Slack, Ann Stamm, S. Charles Thacher (members of the Beckham Bird Club, chapter of the Kentucky Ornithological Society).

CYNTHIANA: December 26; 12:30 to 5:00 P. M. Old Laird farm. Partly cloudy.... light south wind; temp. 58 at start, 65 at return. Observers together. The Lark Sparrows were seen at very close range and studied carefully. Total, 23 species, 316 individuals.

—JOHN AND BIRD MAYER.

BEREA: December 26; 8:45 to 11:15 A. M. Disney's Grove and Berea Cemetery. Fair; light south wind; temp. 50 to 70. Observers together. Total, 24 species, 327 individuals.

—ESTIL DEITZ AND JOHN B. LOEFER, Berea College.

JOHN'S RUN: December 26; 9:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Cloudy in morning, clear in afternoon; temp. 41 to 49. About 8 miles on foot in wooded and open-field areas. Total, 21 species, 351 individuals.

—ERCEL KOZEE.

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WINTER BIRDS AT MOREHEAD

During the month of Dcember, 1942, I took six or eight hikes, ranging from one to ten miles through fields, woods, and stream bottoms for the purpose of studying the bird life of Rowan County. This year the Song Sparrows and Slate-colored Juncoes are very numerous. Cardinals, Bronzed Grackles, Starlings, Bluebirds, Carolina Chickadees, Downy Woodpeckers, Mallard and Black Ducks, Sparrow Hawks, Bobwhites, and Carolina Wrens are more numerous than in preceding winters. The Cardinals, Carolina Wrens, Slate-colored Juncoes, various sparrows, and Carolina Chickadees are feeding mostly on ragweed seeds, sumac berries, and pine seeds. I have seen one Woodcock; it was feeding in a small creek. Robins are very scarce in this section this winter for some reason, but the Bluebirds have replaced them.

On one trip I counted 64 Starlings flying to roost and 21 Goldfinches feeding on weed seeds. The Towhees are staying in the small thickets this year, since there were few forest fires this fall. Blue Jays are very scarce, but what few there are as noisy as ever. The English Sparrows are a pest this year and are found around barns and chicken pens. I think that there are more species of birds present this winter because of the abundance of food and shelter brought about by the efforts of the Forestry Service and sportsmen in this section by planting food and preserving the brush thickets.

—JIMMY REYNOLDS, President, Junior Academy of Science.

ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

New members of the K. O. S. since our last issue are the following:

Mrs. Kerney Adams, Lancaster Avenue, Richmond.
Mrs. J. D. Baldez, 110 Hillcrest Avenue, Louisville.
Miss Marjorie Hagemeyer, 2426 Ransdell Avenue, Louisville.
Mrs. R. P. Overstreet, 2006 Trevilian Way, Louisville.
Mrs. Harry M. Weeter, 1795 Yale Drive, Louisville.

The Glasgow Bird Club has elected Mrs. F. Everett Frei to fill the vacancy in the office of president caused by the death of Mr. H. Cal Rogers.

Mr. James Gilpin, of the Fish and Game Commission, Frankfort, presented moving pictures of the department's work before the Glasgow Bird Club at an open meeting on November 30, 1942.

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TWO CONTRASTING CHRISTMAS COUNTS

Here are two Christmas Bird Counts from areas beyond our borders, in which many of our members participated. Oscar McKinley Bryens, of McMillan, Michigan, long a faithful member, sends in this one:

McMillan, Luce County, Michigan: Dec. 25; 7:00 A. M. to 10:42 A. M.; three and a half miles through fields, edge of lake, mostly through cut-over land; 12:40 to 2:15 P. M.; 160 acres of forest of basswood, beech, birch, elm, ironwood, and hard maple. Ground covered with an average of 16 inches of snow; lake frozen over; a little snow falling most of day; moderate northeast wind; temp. 11 to 7. Canada Ruffed Grouse, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 4; Northern Downy Woodpecker, 3; Northern Blue Jay, 5; Black-capped Chickadee, 16; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1; English Sparrow, 9; Common Redpoll, 4; Northern Pine Siskin, 50. Total, 10 species, 95 individuals. Other species observed this month but not today; Dec. 7: Purple Finch, 1; Dec. 8: Canadian Pine Grosbeak, 1; Eastern Goldfinch, 14; Dec. 11: Great Horned Owl, 1; Dec. 16: Starling, 1; Dec. 23: Greater Prairie Chicken, 2; Evening Grosbeak, 2; Dec. 24: Northern Shrike, 1; Eastern Snow Bunting, 6 (at least 1000 on Dec. 8). Fairly good supply of seeds on trees of ironwood and hard maple; also beech nuts and cones of birch and hemlock.

—OSCAR McKINLEY BRYNES.

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From Nashville, Tennessee, nearly nine hundred miles south of Mr. Bryens's territory, comes this count:

NASHVILLE, TENN. (Radnor Lake, Overton Hills, Hillsboro Road, Hobbs Road, Percy Warner Park, Bellemeade, Westmeade, Hillwood, Halls Lane, Cumberland River bottoms at Eighth Avenue and above Shelby Park, Knapp Farm, and Mill Creek). Dec. 27: 8:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Ground bare; south wind; cloudy in morning; steady, hard rain after 1:00 P. M.; unseasonably warm; temp. 60 at start, 67 on return. Observers, 27 in 8 parties; 42 party hours, mostly afoot. Pied-billed Grebe, 2; Common Mallard, 24; Black Duck, 21; Baldpate, 5; Ring-necked Duck, 52; Lesser Scaup, 36; American Golden-eye, 1; Bufflehead, 5; American Merganser, 1; Turkey Vulture, 2; Black Vulture, 38; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 7; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Marsh Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 19; Bob-white, 40; Coot, 26; Killdeer, 33; Wilson's Snipe, 2; Mourning Dove, 90; Barn Owl, 5 (a pair in a nesting hollow with 3 young); Screech Owl, 3; Great Horned Owl, 4; Barred Owl, 4; Belted

Kingfisher, 2; Flicker, 33; Pileated Woodpecker, 7; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 21; Red-headed Woodpecker, 2 (a group of 12 others are wintering in an area not covered); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 5; Hairy Woodpecker, 8; Downy Woodpecker, 42; Prairie Horned Lark, 94; Blue Jay, 29; Crow, 183; Carolina Chickadee, 107; Tufted Titmouse, 64; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Brown Creeper, 22 (more common than usual); Winter Wren, 3; Carolina Wren, 50; Mockingbird, 74; Robin, 24 (large flock the day before); Hermit Thrush, 2; Bluebird, 88; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 16; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 1 (unusual in winter); Starling, 690; Myrtle Warbler, 50; English Sparrow, 190; Meadowlark, 51; Bronzed Grackle, 3; Cowbird, 1; Cardinal, 220; Purple Finch, 15; Goldfinch, 77; Red-eyed Towee, 52; Savannah Sparrow, 4; Slate-colored Junco, 448; Tree Sparrow, 2; Field Sparrow, 105; White-crowned Sparrow, 31; White-throated Sparrow, 110; Fox Sparrow, 6; Swamp Sparrow, 11; Song Sparrow, 135. Total, 68 species, 3503 individuals. Birds more numerous than in several years, but rain curtailed field work and reduced numbers of species listed.

—Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Abernathy, Catherine Anderson, Sam Clark, Jr., A. F. Ganier (compiler), Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Hawkins, Wayland Hayes, Helen M. Howell, Conrad Jamison, Amelia R. Laskey, Vera McElween, Arthur McMurray, E. M. McNish, Dr. and Mrs. G. R. Mayfield, George Mayfield, Jr., C. E. Pearson, J. A. Robins, J. M. Shaver, Ed. Schrieber, William Simpson, W. R. Spofford, H. S. Vaughn, G. B. Woodring, and G. M. Yarbrough (Members Nashville Chapter, Tennessee Ornithological Society).

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THE AFFILIATION OF THE JUNIOR ACADEMY OF SCIENCE WITH THE K. O. S.

By HARVEY B. LOVELL, President K. O. S.

Plans for the affiliation of the Junior Academy of Science and the Kentucky Ornithological Society, which were announced in the last issue of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, have now been completed. The officers of the Junior Academy and the Executive Committee of the Junior Academy have accepted our program. About 38 Junior Academy Science Clubs have affiliated to date, with a total enrollment of between 700 and 800 students. Each club receives a copy of each issue of the WARBLER in return for an affiliation fee of fifty cents a year.

The K. O. S. has agreed to help the Junior Academy Clubs in many ways. For example, we have agreed to give lectures before the clubs on birds and conservation and to lead ornithological hikes in those communities where we have active members. The K. O. S. feels that by this affiliation we have greatly extended our usfulness by bringing bird lore to nearly a thousand young people in nearly every part of the state.

The officers of the Junior Academy of Science are as follows: President, Jimmy Reynolds, Morehead Training School; Vice-President, Glenn Witt, Lancaster High School; Secretary, Lenora Henry, Lafayette High School, Lexington; Treasurer, Edna Winkler, Kingston High School. An article on "Winter Birds at Morehead," by Jimmy Reynolds, appears in this issue. Miss Henry is working on another article on photography of birds, which she has promised us for a future issue.

We now take this opportunity to wish the Junior Academy of Science, under the leadership of Dr. Anna Schnieb, of Eastern Teachers College, the greatest year in its history. Kentucky is fortunate to have one of the three or four most active clubs in the country. We also congratulate Dr. Schnieb and the club sponsors upon the excellent JUNIOR SCIENCE BULLETIN. We forsee a great future for science in Kentucky, and we are proud that the Kentucky Ornithological Society is playing an ever-increasing role in the collection and spreading of scientific knowledge.

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HENRY CALVIN ROGERS—A TRIBUTE

By F. EVERETT FREI

H. Calvin (Cal) Rogers, a native of Kentucky, spent most of his early life in Illinois, where he met and married Miss Anna Hallford. His entire life was characterized by service to others. While in Illinois he was very active in Epworth League and Church work and also in the state temperance movements. For twenty years he has been lovingly known to the Boy Scouts of Glasgow and to the Mammoth Cave Division of the Boy Scouts of America as "Cal," and his work in the Scout movement has been the outstanding work of his later life. He has been camp director and custodian of Camp Rotary ever since it was given to the local Scout organization, and in this capacity he has taught many youths of the community the lore of wood, stream, and open road. The study of birds and other wild life and teaching the results of his observations to the boys and the girls of his community comprised his chief joy. He was one of the Founders of the Glasgow Bird Club and at the time of his death, November 19, 1942, was its president-elect. He had been a leading spirit in the club since its organization in 1940. It is impossible to estimate the loss of his leadership and counsel.

Below appear the resolutions offered on December 10, 1942, to the Glasgow Bird Club:

"We, your committee of the Glasgow Bird Club, beg to submit the following: WHEREAS, on the nineteenth day of November, 1942, God in His infinite wisdom, mercy, and love saw fit to visit the home of our fellow member and president, Henry Calvin Rogers, and carry him away to dwell with Him forever, Therefore, be it resolved:

"First, that our hearts go out in loving sympathy to his wife, children, and grandchildren in this, their and our great loss.

"Second, we wish to express our appreciation for his faithfulness in the discharge of all the duties imposed upon him as a member and as president of our club. He was loyal and conscientious in all the work he undertook for us, and we feel keenly his loss. It can be truly said of him

He prayeth well who loveth well
Both man, and bird, and beast.
He prayeth best who loveth best
All things both great and small;
For the dear God who loveth us
He made and loveth all.

"And further be it resolved that a copy of these resolutions be spread on the records of the club and a copy sent to the family of the deceased as a precious memorial to him and his work among us.

Committee—

MRS. V. R. JONES,
MRS. J. WOOD VANCE,
MRS. C. C. HOWARD."

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded—1923 by B. C. Bacon, Dr. L. Otley Pindar, and Gordon Wilson.

Purpose—To encourage the study of birds and to sponsor measures for their protection.

Organ—THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, a quarterly magazine of ornithology.

Meetings—Spring, in Louisville, at the time of the Kentucky Education Association;

Fall, in some place of interest out in the state.

Dues—One dollar a year; residents and non-residents interested in any phase of ornithology are urged to become members.

1943 Officers—

President—Dr. Harvey B. Lovell, University of Louisville.
Vice-President—Miss Mabel Slack, Atherton High School, Louisville.

Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. F. Everett Frei, 202 Leslie Avenue, Glasgow.

Councillors—West: Dr. Cynthia C. Counce; Central: Mr. H. Cal Rogers, Glasgow; East: Dr. John B. Loefer, Berea College.

Retiring President—Miss Evelyn J. Schneider, University of Louisville.

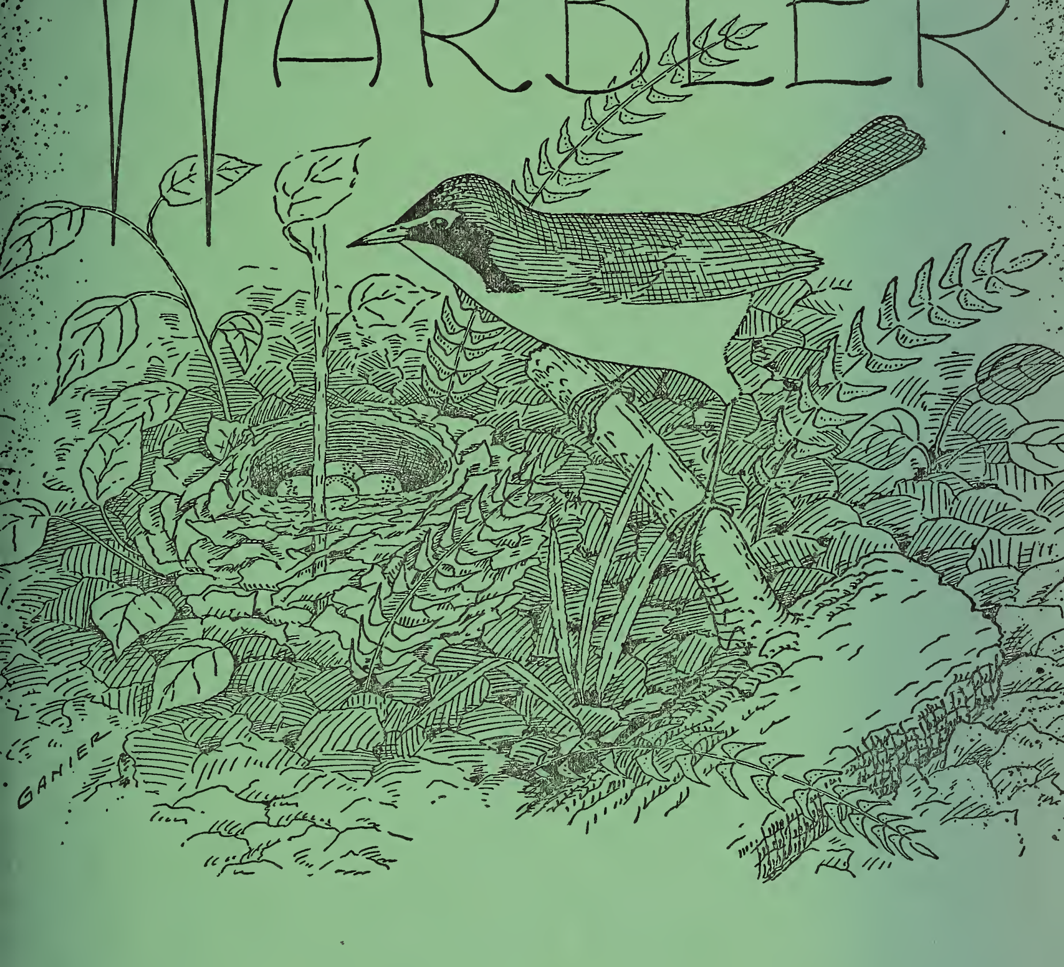
Advisory Committee—

Mr. Floyd Carpenter, Louisville; Dr. G. B. Pennebaker, Morehead; Dr. Anna Schnieb, Richmond; Major Victor K. Dodge, Lexington; Mrs. Nelson Nuckols, Glasgow; Mr. Roger W. Barbour, Bowling Green; Miss Grace Wyatt, Murray; Mrs. John H. Mayer, Cynthiana; Dr. T. Atchison Frazer, Marion; Dr. A. L. Pickens, Paducah; Mr. A. F. Ganier, Nashville, Tenn.; Mrs. J. Kidwell Grannis, Flemingsburg.

Send dues to Secretary-Treasurer.

Send notes and articles for publication to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Editor of KENTUCKY WARBLER, Bowling Green.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER



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1943

Vol. 19
No. 2

. . . The . . .
Kentucky Warbler

*"To sift the
sparkling from the
dull, and the true
from the false, is
the aim of
every Ornithologist."*

Vol. XIX SPRING, 1943 No. 2

PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE K. O. S.

We regret that it was necessary to cancel our annual spring meeting at the time of the Kentucky Education Association, especially as this is our twentieth anniversary. It seems, therefore, that a report should be made of the progress of the Kentucky Ornithological Society during the last year.

Our plan to have at least one illustration in each issue of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER has been fulfilled through six issues, and its value to the society is attested by our increased list of member-subscribers. So far the copper and zinc etchings for these illustrations have been financed by donations by Arthur Unglaub, Leonard Brecher, A. F. Ganier, William Clay, H. B. Lovell, the Junior Academy of Science, and an anonymous donor. If you like pictures, won't you send our secretary-treasurer a check for a few dollars to help in this feature of our magazine?

The importance of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER has been shown by the fact that several nationally famous ornithologists are among our subscribers. THE WILSON BULLETIN indexes under current ornithological literature those articles of ours which contain original observations or ideas. And now the editor of BIOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS has asked us to prepare abstracts of our better articles for that great publication. This will bring our discoveries to the notice of ornithologists all over the United States.

Our program for stimulating interest in birds and conservation has been greatly expanded through the affiliation of the Junior Academy of Science. Over thirty clubs, with a membership of nearly seven hundred students, availed themselves of this opportunity and now receive copies of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER. An increasing number of these high school students have taken up the study of birds and have written excellent articles for the cash award which we are again offering for the best bird paper.

The March, 1943, issue of the KENTUCKY SCHOOL JOURNAL carried a three-page article on the activities of the K. O. S. The cover picture of this same issue was a beautiful photograph of a White-eyed Vireo at its nest made by Mabel Slack. The wide circulation of this journal makes up in part for the lack of our spring convention. However, we shall all miss Karl Maslowski's fine studies in Kodachrome, which were again to have been our feature attraction. Other speakers were to have been Dr. Gordon Wilson, Dr. Anna A. Schnieb, and Mr. Leonard Brecher.

JUN 9 '44

Because of the war, conservation groups have an even more important part to play in the proper use and protection of our natural resources. It is the privilege of every member to bring our organization to the attention of the scientific or nature-minded people of his community. There are hundreds of prospective members in Kentucky who would find our society an interesting and valuable group if they could but learn about its activities from an enthusiastic member. Won't you be that member? Let's all work together to make the K. O. S. the greatest state bird club in the country!

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FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

RECEIPTS—	
Balance on hand, October 6, 1942	$ 85.79
27 Memberships @ $1.00	27.00
36 Memberships @ 75c	27.00
1 Membership @ 56c	.56
Junior Academy of Science Affiliation Dues	15.00
Dividend from Endowment	5.25
Total Receipts	$160.60
DISBURSEMENTS—	
Printing two issues of WARBLER and Set of Covers	$ 78.84
Stamps	6.00
Membership in Kentucky Conservation Council	2.00
Printing and Mailing Fall Programs	3.00
Total Disbursements	$ 89.84
Balance on Hand, April 15, 1943	$ 70.76

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TWENTY YEARS OF THE K. O. S.

By The Editor

It was just twenty years ago this April that Dr. L. Otley Pindar and I met at the Seelbach Hotel in Louisville and organized the Kentucky Ornithological Society. Mr. B. C. Bacon was unable to be present but sent a complete plan for a constitution, which was in effect until the revision authorized in 1940 and adopted at our meeting at Natural Bridge State Park. Since there were three of us, we elected ourselves to the three original offices: Dr. Pindar became president; Mr. Bacon became vice-president, and I bcame secretary-treasurer. There were no funds then available for any kind of publicity, but fortunately a reporter from the COURIER-JOURNAL who knew me asked me whether I had any news. Gladly I told him of the recent organization. The next issue of the paper gave us a boost and called attention to us in Louisville, which has from that time on been our best supporter. Miss Emilie Yunker, whom all of us knew and loved so well, read this item, communicated with me at once, and in her inimitable fashion asked many of her friends to join the new club. Several responded, and at once plans were made to hold the 1924 spring meeting. By April, 1924, we had a respectable membership and were highly pleased with the packed room when our first public program was rendered. And that is how it all began. Never large, as societies go, the K. O. S. has always had a core of very active members, so active that our spring and fall meetings have been memorable and in the main well-attended. We have met in nearly every part of Kentucky and have gradually drawn members from all sections. Suppose we all plan right now to make the twenty-fifth anniversary, in 1948, really a big event.

FOUR MONTHS WITH BIRDS

By RAY M. VAN HOOK, Danville

After seeing the interesting collections of ornithology that were exhibited at the Junior Academy of Science Convention last April, I became deeply interested in birds. Therefore I decided to spend my spare time last spring and summer in observing and photographing birds. This study has been the most fascinating and educational one that I have ever attempted. Not only did it increase my knowledge of birds, but it took me into the fields and woods where it was possible to observe nature in a scientific way. I soon learned that one must be very quiet and exceedingly patient.

I used my knowledge of photography to a great advantage by taking pictures of the birds' homes. For several years taking, developing, and printing pictures have constituted one of my hobbies. Many of the nests are hard to get to and are often insufficiently lighted, but by using reflecting mirrors, flash synchronizers, and well-timed exposures, I got some good pictures. Frenquently limbs must be removed to light the subject properly, and sometimes sides of trees must be cut away, as is frequently necessary when photographing the woodpeckers.

In Photograph No. 1, showing Mourning Doves in the nest, the nest had to be tilted by one of my companions so that sufficient light from the late evening sun would shine on the subject. My friend's hand can be seen in the lower right-hand corner of the picture. The nest was in a cedar tree in a grove of cedars, about five feet above the ground, and was made of coarse cedar twigs, very loosely put together, making a plate-like nest. The picture was taken in the latter part of May, 1942.

In Photograph No. 2 limbs of the shrub were removed so as to expose the nest and eggs of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo. This nest was about six feet from the ground and was photographed in May, 1942.

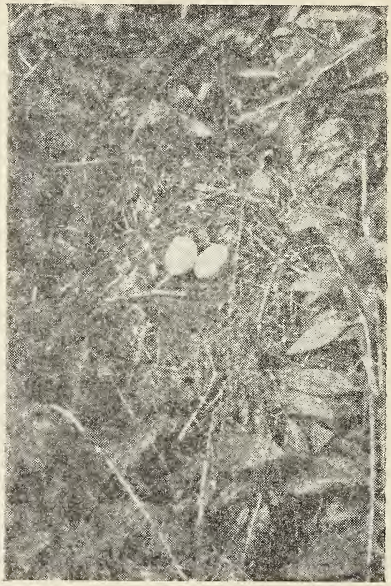
The eggs of the House Wren shown in Photograph No. 3 were laid in a gourd, which was in our garage when the nest was discovered. It was carefully removed to the top of an old brick incinerator in my back yard for photographing. The bolt, about two inches across, which is shown in the upper left corner of the picture, was placed for camparison of size. After the picture was taken, in the latter part of April, 1942, the gourd was put back into the garage. Two more eggs were laid in the nest.

The nest seen in Photograph No. 4 was photographed in its native environment, an open field. Grass and coarse twigs of bushes had to be pushed aside to allow light to fall on the nest of the Meadowlark. This picture was taken in June, 1942.

By taking photographs and notes on field trips, I have completed a notebook that can be used for future reference in my bird study. It contains a record of every bird in this study and specific dates when changes took place in the birds' developments and movements.

My increasing interest in this study brought about the purchase of T. Gilbert Pearson's BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA, which is excellent for scientific references and for all who want to learn about birds as a source of enjoyment.

1. Nest of Mourning Dove



2. Nest of Yellow-billed Cuckoo

3. Nest of House Wren

4. Nest of Meadowlark

EFFECTS OF THE WAR ON BIRD LIFE

By AUDREY A. WRIGHT, Louisville

War has had a detrimental and also a beneficial effect on birdlife. Bird destruction has been greater than the benefits derived from war.

There are a number of reasons for this. First, the Pittman-Robinson appropriations have been cut from two and a quarter million dollars to one and a quarter. This has seriously affected the work of federal and state conservation departments by liquidating the C. C. C. and curtailing the work of the Soil Conservation Department, which has been instrumental in getting 250,000 farmers to improve soil and moisture conditions of their land. It is known that strip-planting and gully and stream bank planting encourage bird life. Now that farmers are asked to raise as much food as possible, it is feared that the shelter of birds will be removed.

In Louisiana it is reported that the Ivory-billed Woodpecker is nearing extinction rapidly because over half the wooded area in which it nests has been cut for war purposes.

The personnel of conservation departments has been reduced because of the loss of men to the war industries, the armed services, and the lack of funds. In West Virginia alone the number of game wardens has been reduced by one third.

War activities themselves have affected bird life adversely. The intensive patrolling of Alaskan waters by the Navy is reported to have caused some additional destruction of the Bald Eagle. In the Aleutians, where fresh meat is scarce, ptarmigan and waterfowl are likely to be wiped out. If the killing of birds continues here, it is possible that migratory routes of some species will be changed.

Airplane activities and bombing and machine-gun ranges near game refuges also take their toll.

U-boats along our Atlantic seaboard have caused untold loss of bird life, especially waterfowl. When oil tankers are torpedoed or a submarine is sunk, the water is covered with a thick, sticky mass of oil, which is washed toward the shore. Salt water causes the oil to coagulate and form a gummy mess. In some places in North Carolina the oil was reported to be three or more inches thick on or near the shore. Birds, unfortunate enough to alight in this mess, are doomed, especially in winter, as their activities are slowed, the birds cannot fly, and they become chilled and die of pneumonia.

Experiments to remove the oil have been tried but are either unsuccessful or impracticable because a solvent of the oil destroys the natural oils of the birds, and their feathers are no longer waterproof.

Some sea birds have been found inland preening themselves in shallow, fresh-water pools, in an effort to remove the oil.

Roger Tory Peterson reports that early in February, 1942, after our entry into the war, only a few oil-stained birds were found on the south shore of Long Island. By the end of the month he had a report from Massachusetts that over 20,000 dead or dying birds lined the shores in one place. Most of the birds were eiders, scoters, and Old-Squaws. The Canadian Migratory Bird Officer reported an estimated total of 13,500 birds found in one spot on the Atlantic coast.

The oil menace of ocean water has been recognized for a long time. Since 1924 the United States government has had a law prohibiting the discharge of ballast water within three miles of land. Oil-burning ships use seat water to help keep the ship's equilibrium as the oil tanks are emptied. It was common practice to discharge this oiled water into the harbor upon docking. Now this water is run through separators.

However, the problem is international, since the ocean washes all shores. Consequently, in 1926 the League of Nations attempted an international agreement on the discharge of oil at sea. All countries represented at the conference agreed except Germany, Italy, and Japan. Succeeding attempts have been unsuccessful.

Now for the brighter side of the picture.

The manufacture of arms and ammunition for civilian use was stopped on June 15, 1942, and there is no doubt that there have been fewer hunters in the field. In western Alaska the waterfowl produced good broods because of the shortage of ammunition among civilians.

The Government has closed to civilians certain areas near military camps. This is reported to have been beneficial to the condors in California.

Postponement of the opening date of the Mourning Dove season with fewer hunters in the field has already shown results. Dr. Harvey Lovell, of the University of Louisville, reports an increase in the number and size of the flocks in the Louisville area, because doves nest late and their broods have been given a chance to survive, when formerly they died of starvation if the parents were killed.

The Committee on Bird Protection of the American Ornithologists' Union urges that information on military projects that appear detrimental to important bird habitats should be reported to the Fish and Wildlife Service, Chicago, Illinois, as soon as possible. Action will be taken to save the birds whenever it is feasible.

We can expect losses in conservation as a result of the war effort, but it is our business to be alert and prevent any unnecessary losses.

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HARBINGERS OF SPRING

By SUE WYATT SEMPLE, Providence

Gay meadowlarks are the familiar friends
Of grassy pasture lands and countrysides;
Their clear and flute-like burst of song abides
Within my heart—a cheerful cadence lends;
To far, celestial places it ascends;
Perched on a gate-post or tree-top, it rides
Ethereal waves, when suddenly it glides
Away—to an old split-rail fence descends.
Before the dew has disappeared, let's hike
Across the fields, and pause to greet a flash
Of yellow-feathered breasts; (I think we'd like
A close-up view)—if we are not too rash,
We'll hear the first glad harbingers of spring—
A chorale of meadowlarks—in brilliance sing!

TWO BIRDS NOW EXTINCT FORMERLY OCCURRING IN KENTUCKY

By ROGER W. BARBOUR, Bowling Green

During the past century some half dozen birds formerly occurring in abundance in the United States have been exterminated. Several other species are on the verge of extinction. The Great Auk, the Labrador Duck, the Carolina Paroquet, the Passenger Pigeon, the Eskimo Curlew, and the Heath Hen are among the species that have disappeared. It is safe to say that the primary causes of extermination of these species were the greed and the thoughtlessness of man. Of these species, two, the Passenger Pigeon and the Carolina Paroquet, formerly were very common in Kentucky. The Passenger Pigeon, in particular, occurred in almost unbelievable numbers. It is the purpose of this paper to present briefly a description, the range, some notes on habits, and a history of the extermination of these two species.

PASSENGER PIGEON (Ectopistes migratorius migratorius)

Description:

The specific characteristics of the Passenger Pigeon as given by Baird, Brewer, and Ridgway are as follows: "Tail with twelve feathers. Upper parts generally, including sides of body, head, neck, and chin, blue. Beneath purple brownish-red, fading into a violet tint. Anal region and under tail-coverts bluish-white. Scapulars, inner tertials, and middle of back with an olive tinge; the wing-coverts, scapulars, and inner tertials with large oval spots of blue-black on the outer webs, mostly concealed, except on the latter. Primaries blackish, with a border of pale bluish tinged internally with red. Middle tail feathers brown; the rest pale blue on the outer web, white internally; each with a patch of reddish-brown at the base of the inner web, followed by another of black. Sides and back of neck richly glossed with metallic golden-violet or reddish-purple. Tibiae bluish-violet. Bill black. Feet lake-red. The female is smaller, much duller in color, more olivaceous above; beneath pale ash instead of red, except a tinge on the neck; the jugulum tinged with olive, the throat whitish. Length of male, 17.00; wing, 8.50; tail, 8.40."

Range:

Wilson and Bonaparte (9) give the range of the Passenger Pigeon as follows: "The Wild Pigeon of the United States inhabits a wide and extensive region of North America, on this side of the Great Stony Mountains, beyond which to the westward, I have not heard of their being seen. According to Mr. Hutchins, they abound in the country round Hudson's Bay, where they usually remain as late as December, feeding, when the ground is covered with snow, on the buds of juniper. They spread over the whole of Canada—were seen by Captain Lewis and his party near the Great Falls of the Missouri, upwards of two thousand five hundred miles from its mouth, reckoning the meanderings of the river—were also met with in the interior of Louisiana, by Colonel Pike; and extend their range as far south as the Gulf of Mexico, occasionally visiting or breeding in almost every quarter of the United States."

Habits:

By far the most remarkable characteristic of the Passenger

Pigeon was its gregarious instincts. The flocks of pigeons, both in migration and during the nesting season, were so prodigious as almost to surpass human comprehension. According to Wilson (9), the "migrations appear to be undertaken rather in quest of food than merely to avoid the cold of the climate. I had witnessed these migrations in the Genesee Country . . . with amazement; but all that I had seen of them were straggling parties, when compared with the congregated million which I have since beheld in our western forests, in the states of Ohio, Kentucky, and the Indiana territory."

The birds roosted in huge flocks and often ranged as far as seventy or eighty miles a day in search of food, returning to the same roost every night.

The breeding place differed from the roosting place primarily in its greater extent. Wilson (9) speaks of one nesting area near Shelbyville, Kentucky, that was several miles wide and upwards of forty miles in length. The nests were merely crude platforms of sticks, containing one or two eggs, and incubation was performed by both sexes.

Concerning the number of birds, Wilson (9) estimated one flock near Frankfort to consist of 2,230,272,000 pigeons, and then he says that the enormous figure is probably far below the actual number. He calculated that this flock would require 17,424,000 bushels of mast daily for food.

Ella S. Wilson (10) has given the food of the Passenger Pigeon as beech nuts, wintergreen berries, wild red cherries, some conifer seeds, June berries, red elderberries, partridge berries, chokeberries, acorns, weed seeds, wheat, oats, worms, and various insects.

History of extermination:

According to Roberts (7), the main destruction of the Passenger Pigeon was accomplished between the years 1840 and 1880. The birds were killed on every hand, regardless of the time or season, as the adults were quite palatable, and the squabs were considered a delicacy. Concerning the destruction of the birds Wilson (9) says, "As soon as the young were fully grown, and before they left the nests, numerous parties of the inhabitants from all parts of the adjacent country came with wagons, axes, beds, cooking utensils, many of them accompanied by the greater part of their families, and camped for several days at this immense nursery. Several of them informed me that the noise in the woods was so great as to terrify their horses, and that it was difficult for one person to hear another speak, without bawling in his ear. The ground was strewed with broken limbs of trees, eggs, and young squab pigeons, which had been precipitated from above, and on which herds of hogs were feeding. Hawks, buzzards, and eagles were sailing about in great numbers, and seizing the squabs from their nests at pleasure; while from twenty feet upwards to the tops of the trees, the view through the woods presented a perpetual tumult of crowding and fluttering multitudes of pigeons, their wings roaring like thunder, mingled with the frequent crash of falling timber; for now the axemen were at work, cutting down those trees that seemed to be most crowded with nests, and contrived to fell them in such a manner, that, in their descent, they might bring down several others; by which means the falling of one large tree sometimes produced two hundred squabs, little inferior in size to the old ones, and almost one mass of fat. On some single trees, upwards of one hundred nests were found, each containing one young only; a circumstance, in the history of this bird not generally known to naturalists. It was dangerous to walk under these flying and fluttering millions, from the frequent fall of great branches, broken down by the weight of the multitudes above, and which in their descent, often destroyed numbers of the birds themselves; while the clothes of those engaged in traversing the woods were completely covered with the excrements of the pigeons."

As regards the number of birds taken from one nesting site, the Petosky nesting, Rooney (8) says, "For many weeks the railroad shipments averaged fifty barrels of dead birds per day, thirty to forty dozen old birds and about fifty squabs being packed in a barrel. Allowing 500 birds to the barrel, and averaging the entire shipments for the season at 25 barrels per day, we find the railroad shipments to have been 12,500 birds daily, or 1,500,000 for the summer. Of live birds, there were shipped . . . 80,352."

We know that no bird can long stand such ruthless decimation, but Audubon (5) writes, "Persons unacquainted with these birds might naturally conclude that such dreadful havoc would put an end to the species. But I have satisfied myself, by long observation, that nothing but the gradual diminution of our forests can accomplish their decrease, as they not infrequently quadruple their numbers yearly, and always at least double it."

The first edition of the A. O. U. Checklist in 1895 (1) makes no mention of the coming extermination of the pigeon. However, the following edition (2) makes the statement "Breeding range now mainly restricted to portion of the Canadas and the northern border of the United States, as far west as Manitoba and the Dakotas." The next edition (3), published in 1910, states that the Passenger Pigeon is "now probably extinct." The fourth edition (4) states "the last specimen killed April, 1904; last positively identified in life 1907." According to T. S. Roberts (7) the last one died a captive in the Cincinnati Zoological Gardens on September 1, 1914.

CAROLINA PAROQUET (Psittacus carolinensis carolinensis)

Description:

The following description is that of Audubon (5); "Fore part of the head and the cheeks bright scarlet, that color extending over and behind the eye, the rest of the head and neck pure bright yellow. The edge of the wing bright yellow, spotted with orange. The general color of the other parts is emerald-green, with light blue reflections, lighter beneath. Primary coverts deep bluish-green; secondary coverts greenish-yellow. Quills bluish-green on the outer web, brownish red on the inner, the primaries bright yellow at the base of the outer web. Two middle tail-feathers deep green, the rest of the same colour externally, their inner webs brownish-red. Tibial feathers yellow, the lowest deep orange. Length, 14 inches . . . The female is similar to the male in colour."

Range:

Audubon (5) gives the range of the parrot as "South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, and up the Mississippi to Kentucky. Abundant, resident." The second edition of the A. O. U. Checklist (2) gives the former range of the parrot as "Florida, and the Gulf States north to Maryland, Great Lakes, Iowa, Nebraska, west to Colorado, the Indian Territory, and Texas, and straggling northeastward to Pennsylvania and New York."

Habits:

The habits of the parrot have been extensively studied by both Audubon (5) and Wilson (9). Each one speaks of the fearlessness of the birds when they have been fired upon and their eagerness to find out what had injured their companions. Wilson (9) observed that some were left-footed, others right-footed, as shown by the stains where they had held berries while pecking at them. Wilson also studied a caged specimen or two for many weeks. A parrot that he injured in Kentucky near Big Bone Lick he carried with him wherever he went through Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Louisiana. The story of this parrot greatly appealed to his former neighbors in Scotland and is represented in the statue erected to him at his native Paisley.

The parrots fed on cockleburs, all kinds of fruit, grain and other seeds. They liked the seeds of the sycamore and loved to sip the water of salt springs and marshes. Because of their onslaughts on grain they were shot at and were also taken for food, being reasonably good to eat when young.

Audubon (5) says, "I am of the opinion that the number of eggs which each individual lays is two." The nests were apparently located in hollows, either natural ones or holes excavated by woodpeckers.

History of extermination:

As early as 1842 Audubon (5) states, "Our Parrakeets are very rapidly diminishing in number; and in some districts, where twenty-five years ago they were plentful, scarcely any are now to be seen." In the 1886 A. O. U. Checklist (1) the range is given as "Now restricted to the Gulf States and lower Mississippi Valley, and of local occurrence only." The second edition of the Checklist (2), in 1895, gives the range as "Now restricted to Florida, Arkansas, and the Indian Territory, where it is of local occurrence only." The next, or 1910 Checklist (3) gives the range as "Now probably restricted to Florida, and there only of rare local occurrence." We now know that in 1910 the Carolina Paroquet was already exterminated, for the next, or fourth, edition of the Checklist (4) states that the birds are "apparently extinct." In 1904 the last Paroquet was seen in Florida. Since 1904, no valid record of a Paroquet has been made; so it is safe to say that another of the North American birds has been completely exterminated because of man's greed and short-sightedness.

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ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

Our president, Dr. Harvey B. Lovell, made the main address before the Junior Academy of Science at its annual state meeting at Richmond on April 10.

Dr. Arthur A. Allen, of Cornell University, gave his delightful lecture "Listening in on the Home-life of Birds," a full-length evening program with color, song, and slow-motion movies, before the Beckham Bird Club on April 3. About eight hundred people attended. Several of our out-in-the-state members were present.

The following are new members or people who have rejoined the K. O. S.: Mr. R. C. Soaper, Henderson; Miss Ellen Frederickson, 211 Fairchild Hall, Berea College, Berea; Mrs. Fred Giles, Richmond; Mrs. Arnim Hummel, Richmond; Mrs. G. Norton Sharpe, 174 East Maxwell, Lexington; Mr. Thomas Price Smith, Osage Road, Anchorage.

Burt L. Monroe's present address is First Lieutenant Burt L. Monroe, 346th Bomb Group, 503rd Bomb Squadron, Army Air Base, Dyersburg, Tennessee.

PFC. Clayton Gooden, who is stationed at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, recently visited his relatives in Glasgow.

Mrs. Everett Frei spoke before the Glasgow Girl Scouts on birds at their March open meeting.

* * * * * *

There has come to the editor's desk a handsome bulletin issued by the Department of Conservation of Tennessee, the report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1942. The chairman of the conservation commission is our own Dr. George R. Mayfield, so long a power in both the T. O. S. and the K. O. S. No state publication that has come to the editor's attention is ahead of this valuable bulletin. The commission also publishes a monthly magazine, THE TENNESSEE CONSERVATIONIST, which is full of excellent articles on the activities of the conservationists. Both publications are profusely illustrated.

* * * * * *

The current conflict has brought to an abrupt end many superficial amusements. Now that travel is curtailed, we are forced to look nearer home for entertainment. Nature with her infinite variations is waiting just outside the doorstep, offering genuine happiness and pleasure to those who seek to know her secrets.

For beauty, cheerfulness, and usefulness, birds loom large in Nature's scheme, and we are well repaid when we attract them to our grounds. With the shortage of insecticides, birds—insect eradicators par excellence—are especially necessary to the well-being of our gardens, farms, and forests.

—Extracts from "Our Feathered Allies," by Mrs. F. Everett Frei,

in THE GARDEN CLUB OF KENTUCKY, IV, 12-13.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Publication of the Kentucky Ornithological Society
Issued for the Seasons

Subscription Price..$1.00 Per Year

(Includes membership to state organization and local chapters)

Our former secretary-treasurer, Virgil D. King, is now an officer in the Air Force and is located at Patterson Field, Fairfield, Ohio, where he did his training work in 1942.

Another former offcer, Ed. Ray, took his training at Miami and on the West Coast and is now stationed at Camp Douglas, Arizona.

An unusual Christmas card came to the editor from John A. Patten, now serving with the 280th Signal Pigeon Company at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana.

A check-up of the membership list of the Wilson Ornithological Club, published in the December, 1942, issue of THE WILSON BULLETIN, shows that more than twenty of our K. O. S. members are also members of the W. O. C.

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"Citified" Pileated Woodpecker at Glasgow—Several years ago we were amazed to see a Pileated Woodpecker in the heart of the residential section in our town, several blocks from where we live. At 1:15 P. M. on August 6, 1942, we were delighted to see an adult male Pileated Woodpecker working busily on one of our hollow-topped maple trees. Exactly one week later, at approximately the same time of day, we were thrilled to see presumably the same woodpecker devouring insects and grubs from the same tree. He was so intent on his feeding that we were able to approach quite close to him. We watched him for fifteen minutes. Then he flew from the maple to a nearby oak, his wings making a sound like two boards striking together. This was the last time we saw him.

—EVERETT AND MARY LOU FREI, Glasgow.

* * * * * *

ORNITHOLOGY AND THE WAR

Though many of our active members are now in the armed forces and though all of us may feel that this is no time to study birds or do anything else that will not immediately help war work, there must be some hours each week which all of us will need to devote to outdoor exercise in order to keep able to do our share. Nature is still there, war or no war; we need the sustaining influence of the out-of-doors.

* * * * * *

A new volume of Bent's life Histories has recently been published. It is Bulletin 179 of the Smithsonian Institution and is entitled **Life Histories of North American Flycatchers, Larks, Swallows, and Their Allies.** It is sent free to leading ornithologists upon request or is for sale at a dollar by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded—1923 by B. C. Bacon, Dr. L. Otley Pindar, and Gordon Wilson.

Purpose—To encourage the study of birds and to sponsor measures for their protection.

Organ—THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, a quarterly magazine of ornithology.

Meetings—Spring, in Louisville, at the time of the Kentucky Education Association;

Fall, in some place of interest out in the state.

Dues—One dollar a year; residents and non-residents interested in any phase of ornithology are urged to become members.

1943 Officers—

President—Dr. Harvey B. Lovell, University of Louisville.
Vice-President—Miss Mabel Slack, Atherton High School, Louisville.

Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. F. Everett Frei, 202 Leslie Avenue, Glasgow.

Councillors—West: Dr. Cynthia C. Counce; Central: Mr. H. Cal Rogers, Glasgow; East: Dr. John B. Loefer, Berea College.

Retiring President—Miss Evelyn J. Schneider, University of Louisville.

Advisory Committee—

Mr. Floyd Carpenter, Louisville; Dr. G. B. Pennebaker, Morehead; Dr. Anna Schnieb, Richmond; Major Victor K. Dodge, Lexington; Mrs. Nelson Nuckols, Glasgow; Mr. Roger W. Barbour, Bowling Green; Miss Grace Wyatt, Murray; Mrs. John H. Mayer, Cynthiana; Dr. T. Atchison Frazer, Marion; Dr. A. L. Pickens, Paducah; Mr. A. F. Ganier, Nashville, Tenn.; Mrs. J. Kidwell Grannis, Flemingsburg.

Send dues to Secretary-Treasurer.

Send notes and articles for publication to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Editor of KENTUCKY WARBLER, Bowling Green.

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
JUN - 9 1944
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NATIONAL MUSEUM

Summer
1943

Vol. 19
No. 3

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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Vol. XIX SUMMER, 1943 No. 3

NOTES ON THE WILD TURKEY IN WESTERN KENTUCKY

By GERALD F. BAKER, Refuge Manager, Woodlands

The 50,000 acre Kentucky Woodlands National Wildlife Refuge is located between the Cumberland and the Tennessee Rivers, in Trigg and Lyon Counties. This refuge is stocked with, and is managed for, all native species of wildlife. One of the most interesting and important forms of wildlife on the refuge is the Wild Turkey. This refuge is one of the few remaining areas in the South Central States on whch the native wild turkey has been able to survive. In 1939 the turkey population was estimated at 500. Observations in the winter and early spring of 1943 indicate a population of around 1500.

The Eastern Wild Turkey (**Meleagris gallopavo silvestris**) is the largest of the wild gallinaceous birds, ranging in weight from fifteen to twenty-five pounds. Typical characteristics, as observed in the Woodlands, are the following: color—bronze; head—naked, of variegated colors; carriage—upright; body—fusiform; rump and tail feathers—with dark brown tips; build—light, with long, slim legs. Domestic turkeys were found by Cortez in Mexico in the sixteenth century, taken to Europe, and introduced into this country by early settlers. The tail feathers of the domestic turkey are tipped with white.

Observations at this refuge indicate that some of the environmental conditions necessary for the wild turkey are as follows: predominant woodland habitat, interspersed with small openings; an open-type forest with a predominance of oaks; isolation; an ample water supply, well distributed over the turkey range; and a natural balance of other forms of wildlife on the range.

Here are some of the natural foods used by wild turkeys:

SPRING PERIOD, March 1 to June 1, approximately.

	Scientific Name	Parts Used
Oaks	**Quercus** spp.	Acorns, leaves, catkins
Black Gum	**Nyssa sylvatica**	Seeds
Sweet Gum	**Liquidamber styraciflua**	Seeds
Dogwood	**Cornus florida**	Fruits
Sumacs	**Rhus** spp.	Seeds
Sedge family	**Carex** spp.	Seeds, flowers, stems
Native grasses		Seeds, flowers, leaves
Greenbriers	**Smilax** spp.	Leaves, seeds, stems

Also insects, spiders, crawfish and ticks.

JUN 9 '44

SUMMER MONTHS, June 1 to October 1.

Approximately six species of native lespedeza	**Lespedeza** spp.	Leaves, flowers, fruits
Croton	**Croton monanthogynus**	Fruits
Huckleberry or Dry-land Blueberry	**Vaccinium** spp.	Fruits
Flowering Spurge	**Euphorbia corollata**	Flowers, leaves, fruits
Smartweed	**Polygonum** spp.	Fruits
Native clovers	**Desmodium** spp.	Fruits
Insects		

FALL AND WINTER MONTHS, October 1 to March 1.

Oaks	**Quercus** spp.	Acorns

(Pin oak, blackjack oak, post oak, cherrybark oak, and other small acorn oaks preferred).

Wild rose	**Rosa** sp.	Fruits
Native clovers	**Desmodium** spp.	Fruits
Native and introduced lespedeza (approximately ten species)		Fruits
Hackberry	**Celtis** spp.	Fruits
Dogwood	**Cornus florida**	Fruits
Black Gum	**Nyssa** spp.	Fruits
Grape (wild)	**Vitis** spp.	Fruits
Green grasses, various species		Leaves
Insects		

The turkey foods listed are a small percentage of the foods, plants, and trees utilized by turkeys on this area. The wild turkey is adaptive and utilizes substitutes when preferred foods are not available. The above listed foods, with others, are considered necessary for a successful turkey range. It appears evident that, with the exception of the summer months, around fifty per cent of the turkey's food is secured from the oaks. Around sixty-six per cent of the trees on the Kentucky Woodlands are of the sixteen different kinds of oaks found on the area. It is doubtful that the wild turkey can survive without a plentiful supply of acorn-bearing oaks.

The mating season begins in the early part of April. The large winter flocks break up. Local residents believe that each gobbler occupies a certain area, fighting off any gobbler who tries to enter. Soon after daybreak the gobbler's calls are heard. On April 11, 1943, the writer heard fourteen different gobblers calling from a one-half mile radius of one point on the refuge. There are few locations on the refuge where the gobblers cannot be heard during this season. Each gobbler attempts to attract as many females to his territory as possible. Observations this spring indicate an average harem of two or three hens per gobbler. There is some doubt as to the amount of gobbling done by the year-old Toms, or young gobblers. The gobbling continues into the middle of May. While one fertilization is sufficient for a clutch of eggs, mating continues throughout the laying season, usually from April 15 to May 15, approximately.

In the meantime the hen has prepared a nest at some secluded spot; the edges of fields, a small natural clearing near brush, and usually well concealed. The nest is merely a depression in the forest litter. A hen will lay from four to fifteen eggs. The turkey egg requires twenty-eight days to hatch. At the beginning of incubation, the hen may desert the nest if there is any nearby disturbance.

It is believed that the destruction and desertion of nests is a major limiting factor of turkey population on this refuge. At few other times in the life cycle is the turkey more at the mercy of various predators. Opossums, skunks, crows, and snakes are potential nest robbers. Turkeys are adapted to cope with natural enemies. Man and the domestic predators are possibly responsible for the greater portion of nesting failures. Stray dogs and cattle cause nest destructions. Hogs will destroy nests. If the first nest is a failure before hatching, either through desertion or destruction, the hen may attempt another nest at a different location. Young broods have been observed in July, probably due to second nesting. The earliest young brood observed was May 17, 1942. Rains and heavy showers may cause losses of poults up to two weeks of age.

During the summer months the young poults stay with the hen. Unsuccessful hens may join the flock. In 1942 the average number of young per hen was seven. The gobblers usually band in small groups and are not observed with the hens. In 1941 a turkey hen was observed fighting a hawk in protection of the poults.

In the latter part of October the turkeys consolidate in larger flocks. In 1942 and 1943 the average flock was around 20; the largest flock observed was 110.

Studies on this refuge indicate that the turkey, during the late fall and winter, has an average range of from ten to fifteen miles per day. These birds are very alert, and the adult birds, at this time, are not in serious danger from natural predators.

A flock of turkeys, as observed from blinds on this refuge, does not eat all of the available acorns at any one place before moving on. Flocks may have the same general route each day for weeks and possibly longer.

The foregoing material is presented as a general sketch of wild turkey habits on this refuge. It is my impression that the wild turkeys on the Kentucky Woodlands National Wildlife Refuge and vicinity are the only ones left in Kentucky. Prior to 1925 there had been little detailed study and research regarding the wild turkey. There is yet much to be learned.

The following publications are suggested for more detailed information on the wild turkey: 1. Henry G. Good and Lloyd G. Webb, "Spring and Winter Foods of the Wild Turkey in Alabama," ALABAMA GAME AND FISH NEWS, September, 1940; 2. H. L. Blakey, "The Wild Turkey on the Missouri Ozark Range," WILDLIFE RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT LEAFLET BS-77, Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior; 3. THE WILD TURKEY IN VIRGINIA, published by the Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries.

Acknowledgement is made to these publications for data incorporated in this paper.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD

By SUE WYATT SEMPLE, Providence

O brilliant jewel, with whirring wings—
Of you I can write a number of things:
But first, are you bird or butterfly?
You are so tiny! Do tell me why?
O little gem, with your long bill thrust
Into sweetest depths, as though you must
Buzz and examine each blossomed bower—
You remain suspended before each flower.

Your nest resembles a little tuft
Of mosses which you have slightly roughed
Up, interwoven with cobwebs and plant
Fibers, and adorned with lichens, I grant
Your temper, your angry twitters and squeaks
Are amusing—surprising me, who sneaks
Too near your moss-covered home on a bough;
You dash at me, the intruder—when wow!

Like a bullet, I fear you will pierce my heart!
You have frightened me so I think I'll depart.

* * * * * *

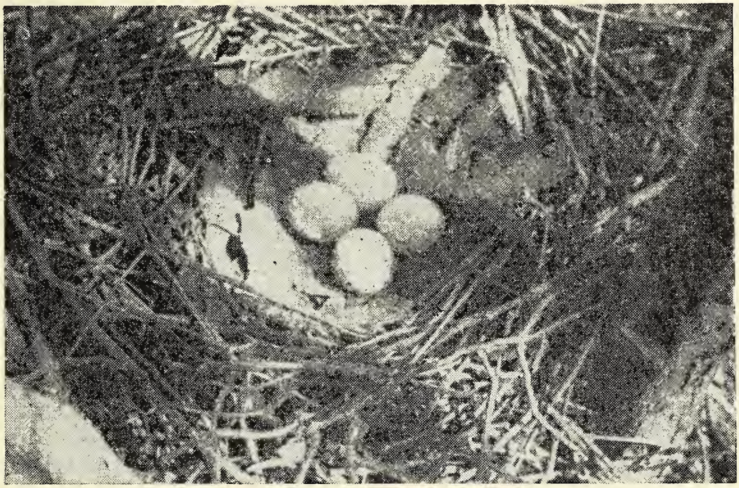
NESTING HAWKS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, AND ADJACENT TERRITORY

By THOMAS P. SMITH, Anchorage

During the last three nesting seasons while accompanied at various times by Burt L. Monroe, James B. Young, Robert E. Mengel, Ed Kohlhepp, and Burt Monroe, Jr., I have climbed to the nests of many Red-shouldered Hawks (**Buteo lineatus lineatus**) and several Cooper's Hawks (**Accipiter cooperi**). During these times we have banded twelve nestlings of the former and ten of the latter. This record may seem insignificicant, but it represents many enjoyable hours in the field which have led us either to disappointment or to happy satisfaction. I have climbed to many nests to find suitable young for banding but instead have found only destruction caused by various "hawk hazards."

Although we have located numerous Sharrow Hawk (**Falco sparverius sparverius**) nests, we have not made any attempts at banding the young. We have collected eggs of the Red-tailed Hawk (**Buteo borealis borealis**) in Oldham County and of the Broad-winged Hawk (**Buteo platypterus**) in Bullitt County. I feel sure that the Sharp-shinned Hawk (**Accipiter velox**) also nests in Bullitt County, partly because that county's rugged forests make up a typical breeding habitat for the energetic little fellow.

Several interesting and odd things have happened to me while in the field. To tell you of one instance, I shall explain how we operate. I usually climb the tree, taking along a ball of heavy cord. When I reach the nest, I drop the cord and hoist up a dilapidated knapsack. Into this go the reluctant nestlings. They are then lowered over the side to Burt for banding and photographing. On one occasion I had just lowered a nestful of half-grown Red-shouldered Hawks and was standing very quietly by the nest and not more than six inches from it when the old hawk glided in with a mouthful of grasshoppers. She (sex assumed) lit right beside my foot and for a few seconds seemed too startled to move. The only logical explanation for this is that she approached from such an angle that the foliage obscured her view. The above event was very unusual because this Buteo has very keen eyes, and when a person is near its nest, it will shy away and not come back as long as the intruder stays.



NEST OF COOPER'S HAWK

In hickory tree, thirty-five feet from ground. Eggs laid on chips of hard outer hickory bark.

In only one case has a Red-shouldered Hawk ever attacked me. The first few times I climbed to a particular nest, the hawk did not attack, but finally I was hit on the top of the head with both talons. From then on I wore a hat and kept my eyes open. I found that a quick movement of the arm would divert the hawk enough to miss me by at least a foot. All of the other species would fly calmly out of sight and wait for me to leave. Frank and John Craighead mention in their book HAWKS IN THE HAND that they can account for only one belligerent Red-shouldered Hawk in their entire itinerary. The Cooper's Hawk, which is usually the more agressive, utters a high-pitched "Ki-Ki-Ki-Ki" as it attacks in defense of its nest, while the Red-shouldered is silent.

I have observed a pair of Red-shouldered Hawks working on their nest as early as February 15, when the weather was exceptionally warm. This same pair has nested for the past five years in either of two large sycamores, one about a quarter of a mile from the other. They have reconditioned their nest four times with sprigs of hemlock and sticks. The change in the nest is very noticeable from the ground in that it is built about six inches above the old nest, which has been flattened by the young of the previous year. When the nest had been rebuilt for the fourth consecutive year, I climbed up to look for the eggs. The hawk must have remembered me from the year before, because she immediately began a new nest up the creek and was incubating thirteen days later. I am quite certain this is the same female because she was the previously discussed bird that attacked me, and she continued to do so in defense of her new abode.

Although ten nests in this region have been found in beech trees and two in sycamores, I do not believe this proves that the Red-shouldered Hawk prefers beech trees. The reason for my belief is the fact that these two varieties of trees practically constitute the group of suitable large trees in this vicinity. Bent records in his bulletin LIFE HISTORIES OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS OF PREY that out of 218 nests he has observed in Massachusetts 50 were in chestnuts, 50 in red oaks, 57 in white pines, 19 in white oaks, 15 in swamp white oaks, 13 in scarlet oaks, 9 in maples, 1 in an ash, and only 4 in beeches. Of the trees in this group the chestnut is totally absent, and the white pine, the oaks, and the ashes are not of sufficient number to provide suitable nesting sites.

The nest is more readily placed in a crotch of the main trunk by both the Cooper's and the Red-shouldered Hawks, but on three occasions I have noted it placed in the fork of a branch and once on a horizontal limb next to the trunk. Three of these exceptions were Red-shouldered Hawks' nests, one of which was fifteen feet from the trunk and situated at a spot where the branch divided into three limbs, each not more than three inches in diameter. On climbing out to the nest, I found my weight made the branch sag about a foot. The nest of the Cooper's Hawk previously mentioned was also about fifteen feet from the trunk but built on a slightly larger branch. This nest and one of the Buteo's precarious structures had each been blown out by the next year.

I have never found green, deciduous leaves in a nest, but this condition has been reported as not uncommon in Michigan. I recorded the contents of one nest, which included mistletoe, dry grass, roots of small weeds, hemlock, dry iris leaves, small twigs, dry leaves, sycamore balls, and many tufts of white down from the breast of the adult. This bird was incubating three eggs. The eggs I have found vary from white heavily blotched with warm sepia to almost immaculate pin-point-size specks of brown clustered around the small and large ends. I have known two different birds to incubate one egg and raise one young bird. Possibly squirrels or crows destroyed the other eggs.

The most dangerous enemies of the Red-shouldered Hawk is the farmer, who is unwilling to learn about his feathered helpers. Another enemy is the Crow (**Corvus brachyrhynchos brachyrhynchos**), which I have known at one time to break open two eggs of a clutch and leave one unbroken. There is no doubt about this depredation, because I could see the large hole in the top side of the egg and the smaller hole in the bottom made by the tip of the Crow's bill. Still another territorial rival is the Great Horned Owl (**Bubo virginianus virginianus**). I located a nest of the previous hawk with one egg on April 17, 1941. I returned to the nest on May 10 to find the nest bare except for rabbit droppings and fur, which I believe is enough evidence to convict a Great Horned Owl of taking over the nest and area. The owl probably chased the hawk from the territory and left the eggs exposed to the crows. A friend who lived nearby told me later that he had heard Bubo calling in January, 1941, for the first time in that particular area.

Bent writes that on climbing to a Cooper's Hawk's nest with the nestlings approaching the end of their fifth week, he scared the last remaining hawklet out of the nest in an attempt to photograph it. With similar aims in mind I clambered to within twenty feet of a nest of five when all five simultaneously leaped out, seemingly unafraid, and fluttered clumsily to the lower branches of nearby trees. These birds were twenty-seven days old and about three-fourths grown. They still had down on their heads and bodies and had not yet shed the casing around their primaries and tail feathers.

As a reward for our banding efforts we have been notified concerning the securing of one of our banded Buteos in southern Indiana. Even if we had received no returns, we should certainly have been justified in that we enjoyed unique thrills and learned many interesting facts.

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BIRDS AT WINTER FEEDING STATIONS

By TODD MILES, Maysville High School

(Prize-winning essay in the Kentucky Ornithological Society's contest open to the Junior Academy of Science)

Last October I constructed a number of feeding stations, ranging in size from feeding tables to simple, one-piece affairs. Being unaware of the feeders and finding adequate natural food elsewhere, the brds came infrequently at first.

Snow on three successive week ends (December 5-6; 12-13; and 19-20) brought heavy patronage from a variety of birds. When the weather was clear, certain birds would visit the feeders with more or less regularity, but with the coming of snow the birds began to appear in considerable numbers, for snow meant that food would be scarce elsewhere.

The Tufted Titmouse, bold always, and pugnacious often, habitually announced himself when he came to the window shelf. The Titmice showed a marked preference for the suet and sunflower seed, though they did eat some corn. Well able to take care of themselves, the Titmice said "Please" to no one and sometimes chased other birds, including a woodpecker, from the feeder. For some reason, the Titmouse lowers his tuft with every bite.

Perhaps the most regular callers were the Chickadees, which usually announced their coming with a characteristic call, very similar to that of their relatives, the Titmice. These birds often chase each other away and have friendly but heated disputes among themselves. However, one of them sitting on the window shelf became quite angry. To show his displeasure, he spread his tail, raised the feathers of his black cap, filled himself with air, and made a sort of hissing sound; the effect was surprisingly impressive for such a mall bird. At other times a Chickadee would come to the edge of the shelf to wait his turn; and when the bird at the suet holder had left, he made one hop to the center of the board, where he pecked away vigorously. When he had a large flake of suet, he generally flew away to eat it. The Chickadees also ate some corn.

During the late fall White-throated Sparrows were numerous near my orchard feeders, but with the coming of cold weather many of them left. A few of them, however, stayed on even during the snows and came up to the house, where they ate cracked corn and millet. They have a pretty song but sing only rarely in cold weather.

A pair of Song Sparrows stayed in the barberry bushes behind the house for several weeks in December. The older one became rather possessive and semed to regard the two feeding places near the door as their exclusive property. When a bird came to one, the Song Sparrow would make it leave first one and then the other feeder. The Song Sparrow ate cracked corn, sometimes scratching in the grass for food that had fallen there, and defended itself ably in all encounters.

English Sparrows also found their way to my feeders, but, fortunately, they came only when snow was on the ground. Whenever I have seen them in the presence of other birds, they have played the parts of rogues and villains. The English Sparrow is aggressive and drives other birds away with a persistency and cunning I have seen in no other bird. If the occupant of the feeder is large, the English Sparrows come in a few at a time. The bird often makes them leave at first, but they come back in ever-increasing numbers until he is forced to abandon the feeder to the aggressor. Sometimes other birds will eat peaceably with English Sparrows if there are only a few of them and there is plenty of room; nevertheless the reverse has been far more common in my experience. In view of these observations, I felt constrained to destroy as many English Sparrows as possible. Hunted, they became wary and would come to the feeders very rarely when other birds were not there. They seemed to sense that the presence of other birds gave them a measure of protection.

The Juncos, of course, were abundant. They came to all feeders, where they ate millet and cracked corn. Though deprived of one leg through some accident, one of the Juncos that stayed here balanced himself on his one leg and fared very well. Juncos have a rather pretty song, but I heard it only once this winter.

The Cardinals were here in numbers, there often being over a dozen in the vicinity of the house on cold days. Some of these birds, in winter plumage but beautiful still, stay all year and take food we put out, in amounts inversely proportional to natural food available. Like many birds, they frequently and gratefully take what is given them when they must do so, but they generally take to the woods on fair days. The Cardinal's favorite food is corn; and, like the Titmouse, he lowers his crest with every grain he pecks, raising it again when he raises his head.

A pair of Towhees stayed with me rather late this year and frequently ate at the outer feeding stations or scratched in the leaves near by. However, they seemed more shy than in the spring and would not come near the house until the heavy snowfall of December covered available food elsewhere. Then they came up on the porch and ate corn and sometimes monopolized the feeder. Later in the day I also saw a female on the porch.

The Carolina Wrens were common in the vicinity of the feeders and occasionally came to the house to feed. Often in the woods and a few times at the feeder the Wrens have given as cheerful a song as on any spring morning. When approached too closely, this bird simply enters undergrowth, a brush pile, or hedge, where it is safe from most enemies.

One morning a Crow, of all things, alighted on the window feeder and proceeded to enjoy breakfast. Upon being invited to leave, he persisted with temerity and lack of caution unusual in this bird. He finally left, however, and has been the last of his kind to visit us.

Perhaps the most interesting birds to come to the window feeder were the Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers. Downys had been coming for over a week when at last a big Hairy Woodpecker alighted on the shelf near a Downy. These two birds, alike in so many ways, presented a marked contrast in size. Except for this characteristic, a Hairy appears to be merely a larger duplicate of his cousin. On coming to the window shelf, both birds hung vertically from the edge to survey the scence before starting to eat. These birds do not stand on their feet when eating from the horizontal shelf but rather rest on their legs—not their feet—and help support themselves with the tail. The birds' mode of life has caused an inability to stand and necessitates this sprawling attitude on flat surfaces. Both birds eat suet exclusively; I have never seen one touch grain. Sometimes a certain Downy gets too much suet on the outside of his bill and comes to the window sill, on which he carefully wipes off the excess suet. The woodpeckers generally announce themselves with a characteristic call.

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ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

Mrs. Charles McBride, who was the secretary of our society from the spring of 1925 to the fall of 1929, died in Louisville on March 16, 1943, at the age of eighty-five. In the early days of the K. O. S. Mrs. McBride took a very active interest in our fall trips and often went with us on our hikes. She had something of the rugged health that characterized the late Miss Emilie Yunker and was noted for her extensive travels in all parts of the world.

Our president, Dr. Lovell, and his family spent their June vacation in the Otter Creek Reservation.

The Beckham Bird Club's new officers are as follows: President, Esther Mason; Vice-President, Leonard Brecher; Secretary-Treasurer, Henrietta Link.

Mabel Slack had charge of the annual Cuckoo Party at Iroquois Lodge on June 2. This event always is a great time for fun for the Beckham Bird Club.

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MIGRATION WEEK END AT MAMMOTH CAVE

Since we did not have our annual spring meeting of the K. O. S., we decided to visit the Mammoth Cave National Park for a week end at the height of the migration season. In spite of the very late spring, we could not have picked a better time than April 30-May 2, when we camped at Sloan's Crossing, at the Park City side of the park, and at the cave itself. By working every available daylight hour, we recorded 104 species, to set a new record for a week-end trip for Wilson in this area. Within the park itself we found 96 species, another lifetime record for Wilson. Other hgh points were the finding by Lovell, of three nests of the Cerulean Warbler, the photographing of the beaver pond and house at Sloan's Crossing, and the adding to Lovell's list of the Blue-winged Warbler and the Bachman's Sparow, both by song and sight. Wilson made one new record for the area, the House Wren, though it had been recorded there by Claude W. Hibbard in 1935.

Here is our list: Green Heron, Blue-winged Teal, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Osprey, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Solitary Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Whip-poor-will, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Hummingbird, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Parula Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Sycamore Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Ovenbird, Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Maryland Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded Warbler, Redstart, English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Goldfinch, Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, and White-throated Sparrow. Species recorded outside the park itself: Marsh Hawk (a very late record), Killdeer, Hairy Woodpecker, Bobolink (not seen in the park since meadows disappeared), Bronzed Grackle, Dicksissel, Grasshopper Sparrow, Bachman's Sparrow.

—HARVEY LOVELL AND GORDON WILSON.

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FIFTH ANNUAL FIELD DAY OF BECKHAM CLUB

By ANNE L. STAMM, Louisville

Cape May Warblers, Black-billed Cuckoos, a Philadelphia Vireo, and a Bachman Sparrow were some of the rarest of the many species of birds sighted by the sixteen members of the Beckham Bird Club, who participated in the fifth annual Spring Field Day on May 16, 1943, at Schwarz Woods.

Because of gas rationing it was decided not to go to the Otter Creek Reservation, as had been the custom during the past few years. Schwarz Woods was chosen because it was not only easily accessible but presented a variety of habitats. This area, consisting of approximately seventy-five acres of woodlands, brush, and open fields, beautified by a winding creek with huge sycamores and willows bordering its banks, is located on the old Brownsboro Road about eight miles from Louisville.

Upon arriving, the party first encountered Rough-winged Swallows flying low over the creek. Field Sparrows and Indigo Buntings announced their presence as they vied with each other for honors. A medley of musical and unmusical notes of the Chat were heard, while Goldfinches made merry in the adjoining treetops. This was just the beginning!

The party divided into two groups, each covering a different territory. One group before entering the woodlands discovered a Nighthawk resting in its usual position on a bough only fifteen feet above. Having worked on the "night shift," it defied the group and would not be moved, slumberng on peacefully.

The wooded area fairly echoed with notes of the Red-eyed Vireo. Now and again a plaintive melody of the Wood Pewee blended perfectly with the woodland surroundings. Warblers were evident on every side, teasing the observers with their varied songs. Cerulean, Sycamore, and Louisiana Water-thrushes were easily identified, while the rarer Cape May, Bay-breasted, and Canada were more difficult to recognize from song.

A pair of Black-billed Cuckoos delighted the group as they sat silently in full view. On the outskirts of the woods a Bachman Sparrow trilled its song, and many members observed it for the first time.

Food calls of young Red-bellied Woodpeckers attracted attention to a nest in a large beech tree where both parents were feeding young. A female Summer Tanager was seen carrying nesting material to her nest high up in a tree. In the thickets below a Cardinal's nest was found with two eggs, one a Cowbird's. A House Wren called a fence post home, where she protected carefully four tiny eggs. A Mourning Dove was flushed from her nest, while a Hummingbird hovered above a patch of lyre-leafed sage.

All day long from 9:30 to 5:00 the members filed through this area, stopping only long enough to enjoy a picnic lunch.

Here is a compilation of the birds seen in this area: Turkey Vulture, 5; Mourning Dove, 6; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 1; Black-billed Cuckoo, 2; Nighthawk, 4; Chimney Swift, 18; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 6; Belted Kingfisher, 4; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Kingbird, 5; Crested Flycatcher, 8; Phoebe, 3; Acadian Flycatcher, 4; Least Flycatcher, 1; Wood Pewee, 6; Rough-winged Swallow, 3; Blue Jay, 8; Crow, 3; Carolina Chickadee, 5; Tufted Titmouse, 5; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; House Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 5; Mockingbird, 2; Catbird, 6; Brown Thrasher, 5; Robin, 11; Wood Thrush, 3; Hermit Thrush, 1; Olive-backed Thrush, 5; Gray-cheeked Thrush, 1; Bluebird, 1; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 4; Starling, 8; White-eyed Vireo, 2; Yellow-throated Vireo, 2; Red-eyed Vireo, 17; Philadelphia Vireo, 1; Warbling Vireo, 2; Tennessee Warbler, 3 (songs); Yellow Warbler, 3; Magnolia Warbler, 1; Black-throated Green Warbler, 2; Cerulean Warbler, 3; Blackburnian Warbler, 1; Cape May Warbler, 2; Sycamore Warbler, 2; Chestnut-sided Warbler, 1; Bay-breasted Warbler, 2; Black-poll Warbler, 1; Palm Warbler, 1; Louisiana Water-thrush, 3; Kentucky Warbler, 1; Yellow-throat, 4; Yellow-breasted Chat, 8; Canada Warbler, 1; Redstart, 3; English Sparrow, 2; Meadowlark, 12; Cowbird, 9; Scarlet Tanager, 1; Summer Tanager, 4; Cardinal, 9; Indigo Bunting, 19; Goldfinch, 18; Red-eyed Towhee, 3; Grasshopper Sparrow, 1; Bachman's Sparrow, 1; Field Sparrow, 13; Song Sparrow, 2.

Below is a list of additional species seen as we came from the woods and adjacent territory to our respective homes: Green Heron, 1; Migrant Shrike, 6; Barred Owl, 1; Barn Swallow, 3; Orchard Oriole, 1; Red-winged Blackbird, 20; Bob-white, 1; Dicksissel, 2; Bronzed Grackle, 3; Killdeer, 2; Prairie Horned Lark, 7; Chipping Sparrow, 1; Red-headed Woodpecker, 2; Bewick's Wren, 1. Total number of species, 86; individuals, 370. In the afternoon only new species were added in order to avoid duplication. The morning was cloudy, the afternoon sunny; the temperature varied from 72 to 82.

OBSERVATIONS AT A BIRD-BANDING STATION IN LOUISVILLE

By HARVEY B. AND ETHEL W. LOVELL

INTRODUCTION—The banding of birds is not only an interesting study, but it answers quickly and accurately many questions about the lives and habits of birds which would otherwise be largely guess-work. To the question "Do the same birds come back year after year?" only opinions could be advanced except for the rare instance of a bird with some freakish markings. The number of problems to be solved is endless. Do birds migrate along the same routes each year? Do permanent residents winter where they nest? Where do the birds of any area, such as Louisville, spend the winter? How long do birds live? Are there individual differences in behavior within a species?

A recent book by Mrs. Marie A. Commons, THE LOG OF TANAGER HILL, describes the activities of a banding station in Minnesota, where over an eight-year period 18,024 individuals of 97 different species were banded. This interesting log is replete with valuable information upon the problems raised above and is highly recommended for the library of the ornithologist.

If a bird is retrapped within three months, such an event is termed a **repeat.** Repeats occur frequently with many species, birds often getting into the "trap habit;" that is, they prefer the easy food in or near the traps rather than searching for food. A bird which is taken at an interval of more than three months is called a **return.** Returns are reported on special cards to Washington, D. C., where all the banding data are kept on file under the direction of Frederick C. Lincoln. Birds retaken at the same place are **station returns.** A **foreign return** is one which is retaken at a different location and is usually called a **recovery.** Many of Mrs. Commons's birds were recovered in Texas and other Gulf states. It is important that anyone finding a dead bird with a band should report the fact to the Fish and Wild Life Service, Washington, D. C. (formerly the Biological Survey), with the date and location as well as any other information available. It is not necessary to know the name of the species, as that fact is already on file, but a good ornithologist would naturally include that information as well as the sex and the cause of death, if known.

Our home is on Meade Avenue, in Jefferson County, only half a mile from the city limits of Louisville, but it is contiguous with George Rogers Clark Park, a wild, undeveloped area, and borders on a wooded area along the West Fork of Bear Grass Creek. The following records are based on two years and five months of banding, chiefly in our back yard.

BANDING RESULTS—The most frequent visitors to our feeders during the winter of 1942-43 were the Carolina Chickadees. Of the three we had banded the previous winter, one returned and was trapped several times, and it was accompanied by six new ones. Although chickadees struggle fiercely and bite quite sharply while being banded, they do not seem to be frightened by the experience and keep returning to the feeding platforms, lured by the easy food supply. One in particular seemed to take all of his meals there and managed to get trapped four times in one week. The tiny birds fed one at a time, and whenever a second individual flew down to sample the suet pies, the one there hastily departed. When four or five birds were present, this changing of places occurred so frequently that each bird got only a bite or two at a visit. However, when an additional piece of suet was placed a foot away, two chickadees would feed simultaneously.

Three Tufted Titmice had been constant visitors during the winter of 1941-42. All three got the trap habit so badly that they became almost a nuisance. They carried away so much food that they were evidently storing it somewhere. We carried one two miles away and released it, only to find the persistent bird back in a trap a week later. During the past winter we banded five more titmice, but to our surprise they were much shyer, and only two of them repeated in the traps.

The leading bird of the past winter in number of individuals trapped has been the Cardinal, with 38 new birds. Most of the Cardinals were trapped during snowy weather. On March 5, 1943, snow began to fall in the late afternoon. Within a few minutes the cherry tree by the feeding perch was adorned with a dozen of the beautiful birds. They seemed to realize that lean days were ahead and began stuffing themselves accordingly on sunflower and millet seeds. Although we had already banded 20 Cardinals during the winter, we noted that all this flock was unbanded. This we proved, as we proceeded to trap 14 new Cardinals during the next three days.

During the first two winters of Cardinal banding we did not obtain a single return. This was not due to the birds' being trap-shy, since we have had a number of repeats. The data indicate that Cardinals do not remain in the same yard, but rather drift off to new locations. This is further borne out by the fact that most of our repeats were only a few days apart, often during the same snowstorm, and by the fact that we rarely saw a banded Cardinal in the yard. One banded Cardinal, more clever than his fellows, solved the intricacies of the labyrinth trap and would go in at one entrance, eat his fill, and calmly leave by the other.

As spring advanced, the Cardinal population became more fixed, and after March 10 all but two of the Cardinals seen and trapped were already banded. Evidently they had selected their nesting territory and remained true to it. Our first return was obtained on March 30, 1943, when a female banded January 5, 1942, entered a trap. A second return was also a female, banded April 15, 1941, which returned April 18, 1943, and again on May 8 and June 29. As this was the first Cardinal to enter our traps again after a two-year absence, its reappearance was especially interesting. A third return was a beautiful male banded December 9, 1942, which returned May 8 and again May 23, 1943. Another male, banded March 2, 1943, was found dead April 22, 1943.

The European Starling is second in number of individuals banded at our station, a total of 50 having been handled, including two broods of nestlings from our attic. A Starling is difficult to remove from a small trap, for he grasps the wire frame with his toes and hangs on doggedly. After he is in one's hand, he seldom bites or struggles. We have had two returns. An adult banded May 28, 1941, returned December 12, 1941, thus proving that this individual was non-migratory. The second return was one of the nestlings which had been banded on May 10, 1941 (KENTUCKY WARBLER XVIII (1942), 29-34) and was caught by hand in the garage on

December 12, 1942, a year and seven months later, evidence that it also belonged to a non-migratory variety of Starlings as recently described by W. S. Bullough (1942) for the British races of Starlings.

A flock of White-crowned Sparrows winter regularly in our vicinity and have given us the highest percentage of returns of any species. This attractive sparrow nests in the far north, in Canada from the very limit of trees southward into portions of our most northern states. Of the eight sparrows of this species banded during the winters of 1940-41 and 1941-42 we have had six returns as follows:

Number	Date Banded	Date Returned
40-152,803	April 17, 1941	April 2, 1942
40-152,804	April 17, 1941	February 22, 1942 January 27, 1942
40-152,805	April 17, 1941	February 28, 1942
40-152,810	January 6, 1942	December 21, 1942
40-152,813	March 2, 1942	December 1, 1942

A special study is being made of the winter habits of the White-crowned Sparrow. We are taking weights, measurements, studying plumage changes, etc., the results of which will be embodied in a separate paper two or three years hence.

In spite of its reputation for pugnaciousness we have found the Blue Jay the most docile of birds. It neither struggles nor bites while being handled. Nor have we seen them molest other birds feeding in our yard. When released, one Blue Jay lay perfectly motionless on its back in our hands for two minutes while we photographed it. We have had two significant returns. One banded December 24, 1941, returned May 26, 1942; the other, banded May 26, 1942, was retaken December 9, 1942. These are especially interesting, since they show that at least some of our Blue Jay population spend the winters and summers in the same general area. In other words, they are non-migratory.

A Sparrow Hawk, a new species for our station, was obtained one cold, snowy day in December. An English Sparrow caught in one cell of a two-cell potter trap was our unwitting bait. When discovered, the Sparrow Hawk was struggling fiercely to seize the sparrow. Until we got ready to band him, he "watched us like a hawk," following our every movement with wary, beady eyes. Although he scratched and bit furiously, we banded the beautiful male with the aid of leather gloves. Sparrow Hawks make no attempt to catch sparrows ordinarily and probably do a service by killing injured or sick birds. For example, the killing of a sick bird may prevent the spreading of disease to healthy birds.

Here is the list of birds banded from February 1, 1941, to June 29, 1943; Mrs. Anne Stamm aided in the banding of 68, chiefly House Wrens, Bronzed Grackles, Starlings, Catbirds, and Robins: Cardinal, 54; Starling, 50; House Wren, 26; White-crowned Sparrow, 23; Tufted Titmouse, 19; Slate-colored Junco, 17; Brown Thrasher, 14; Blue Jay, 13; Catbird, 12; Bronzed Grackle, 10; Carolina Chickadee, 9; Phoebe, 9; Mockingbird, 8; Robin, 8; Bluebird, 7; Field Sparrow, 6; Bewick's Wren, 6; Song Sparrow, 5; Towhee, 4; Yellow-throat, 4; Chipping Sparrow, 3; Carolina Wren, 3; Prairie Horned Lark, 3; Prothonotary Warbler, 3; Rough-winged Swallow, 3; Wood Thrush, 2; Black-crowned Night Heron, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Screech Owl, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Black-throated Green Warbler, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Cowbird, 1. Total, 33 species, 328 individuals. We have had 23 returns, 77 repeats, and one recovery.

* * * * * *

Our secretary-treasurer, Mrs. F. Everett Frei, and her husband are now employed by Republic Aviation and can be reached at 2804 Hillcrest Terrace, Evansville, Indiana.

Todd Miles, of Maysville, was the winner in our annual award to the member of the Junior Academy submitting the best article on bird observation. His essay appears in this issue.

New members are Howard Hardaway, 4625 Southern Parkway, Louisville, and Todd Miles, Maysville.

The Institute of Natural History will hold two meetings at Louisville this summer. A series of nature hikes will be conducted at Cherokee Park on August 1, and on August 8 another series will be held at Iroquois Park. Following the hikes there will be a discussion of the natural features of the areas. The K. O. S. will take part through the Beckham Chapter, of Louisville.

The Beckham Bird Club has voted to spend $30.00 on a library of Kodachrome slides of birds and birds' nests. Kent Previette, Floyd Carpenter, and Leonard Brecher are in charge of making the set.

* * * * * *

SHORT NOTES

Beginning with this issue we are starting a SHORT NOTES department, to which we want everybody to contribute. Please send in any fact that has impressed you as interesting in your observations. If you do not have time to write up the note completely, send the facts anyway; we can do the rest. For a long time we have felt that too few of our members appear in our magazine as authors of articles. This will give a chance to many who would not care to attempt a long article. A fourth of each issue might well be taken up with such contributions.

PARASITISM OF A LINCOLN'S SPARROW—On Second Street near Liberty in downtown Louisville I picked up a dead Lincoln's Sparrow on May 13, 1943. As this shy sparrow is rarely seen around Louisville, I gave it to Harvey Lovell to be preserved. He reported that it was a female and that death was probably due directly or indirectly to parasitism by four large nematode worms in the body cavity. The bird was only 5.24 inches long, which is considerably shorter than the average length of 5.75 inches as given in Chapman's HANDBOOK. The buffy band across the breast was well developed, and the bird's plumage in general was in good shape.

—FLOYD CARPENTER, Louisville.

* * * * * *

NESTING OF THE CERULEAN WARBLER IN MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK

Three nests of the Cerulean Warbler were discovered by Gordon Wilson and me on May 1, 1943, in Mammoth Cave National Park. The cool spring had retarded the growth of the leaves, which aided

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greatly the seeing of the nests well, but apparently the late season had not retarded the activities of the birds.

NEST NO. 1. Within fifty feet of where Echo River emerges from the ground we saw a female Cerulean carry nesting material to a nearly completed nest. It was about thirty feet up in a slender elm and was perched on the center of a limb so slender that the nest projected out beyond the limb on either side. A green leaf still attached to a nearby twig had been woven into the nest. During 40 minutes the female made ten trips for more nesting material.

NEST NO. 2. Where the famous River Styx emerges from a hole in the side of the great limestone cliff which houses Mammoth Cave we saw another Cerulean go to her nest in an elm fifty feet above the river. This nest was on a slender limb where a branch was given off. By climbing up the cliff we were able to look directly across to the nest. This nest was not quite as far advanced as the first, the upper portion being still a mere shell through which light could be seen. The female was observed as she wove materials into the nest. When a Yellow-throated Vireo came too close, the Cerulean drove it out of the elm.

NEST NO. 3. Along Green River we observed the third Cerulean pulling strips of bark from a tree. Her nest was a mere framework through which we could look easily. It was located in a slender maple about thirty feet from the ground and also was placed on a limb where it forked. Later Wilson saw the bird wrapping spider webs around her bill.

DISCUSSION. These nests must have been started about April 26 or 27, which is soon after the average date of arrival for the Cerulean Warbler in Kentucky. That is much earlier than the peak migration of the warblers, which does not occur until about May 10. As Mammoth Cave National Park is about the center of the nesting range of this species, it is here that we might expect to find its typical habitat. Among the points brought out in the above observations are the slender type of tree chosen, the position of the nest on a horizontal branch, and the habitat along a stream. In all three cases nest building was apparently done exclusively by the female, although further observations would be necessary to prove this. The male's only contribution was his persistent song, as he proclaimed his territory and stimulated the nest-building activities of his more industrious mate.

—HARVEY B. LOVELL, Louisville.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded—1923 by B. C. Bacon, Dr. L. Otley Pindar, and Gordon Wilson.

Purpose—To encourage the study of birds and to sponsor measures for their protection.

Organ—THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, a quarterly magazine of ornithology.

Meetings—Spring, in Louisville, at the time of the Kentucky Education Association;

Fall, in some place of interest out in the state.

Dues—One dollar a year; residents and non-residents interested in any phase of ornithology are urged to become members.

1943 Officers—

President—Dr. Harvey B. Lovell, University of Louisville.
Vice-President—Miss Mabel Slack, Atherton High School, Louisville.

Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. F. Everett Frei, 202 Leslie Avenue, Glasgow.

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Send dues to Secretary-Treasurer.

Send notes and articles for publication to Dr. Gordon Wilson, Editor of KENTUCKY WARBLER, Bowling Green.

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Division of Birds

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Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Vol. XIX FALL, 1943 No. 4

THE RELATION OF VEGETATIONAL LIFE-FORMS TO THE DISTRIBUTION OF BREEDING BIRDS

By LEONARD C. BRECHER, Louisville

(Presented before the Kentucky Academy of Science, Spring, 1943)

Why do the various species of birds nest where they do? This is a question that has intrigued scientists and bird lovers for generations. Why, for instance, in building does the Warbling Vireo (**Vireo gilvus**) select the topmost branches of a tree, the Yellow-throated (**Vireo flavifrons**) choose the middle branches, the Red-eyed (**Vireo olivaceus**) the lowest branches; yet all three sing and hunt their food together in the treetops? Or, viewed from another angle, why does the Chuck-will's widow (**Antrostomus carolinensis**) breed north to Muldraugh's Hill in Kentucky and then disappear, leaving the semi-wooded forest edges to its smaller cousin, the Whip-poor-will (**Antrostomus vociferus**), which, after appearing in Tennessee, nests north to the coniferous forests in Canada?

This article does not pretend to offer an answer to these questions but rather to summarize the leading current thought about them, pointing the way to further investigations along lines that seem pertinent in the light of our present knowledge.

Dr. Merriam[1] attempted to find the answer in 1899, when he made a survey of the flora and fauna of San Francisco Peak, located in Arizona. He noted that there was a correlation between certain species of birds and vegetation and that the areas of their occurrence were bounded by isotherms. He thereupon formulated his well-known Life Zone Theory, which he published in 1890.[2] By 1895 he he had worked out zones, based on summations of temperatures, for the whole of North America. The theory of temperature summing is founded on the century-old idea that the same stage of vegetation is attained in any year when the mean daily temperatures reach the same value. He then declared that "in its broader aspects the study of geographic distribution of life in North America is completed. The primary regions and their subdivisions have been defined and mapped, the problems involved in the control of distribution have been solved, and the laws themselves have been formulated."[3] His final life-zone classification included three regions, crossing the continent horizontally:

I. Boreal (Northern) Region
    1. Arctic Alpine Zone
    2. Hudsonian Zone
    3. Canadian Zone

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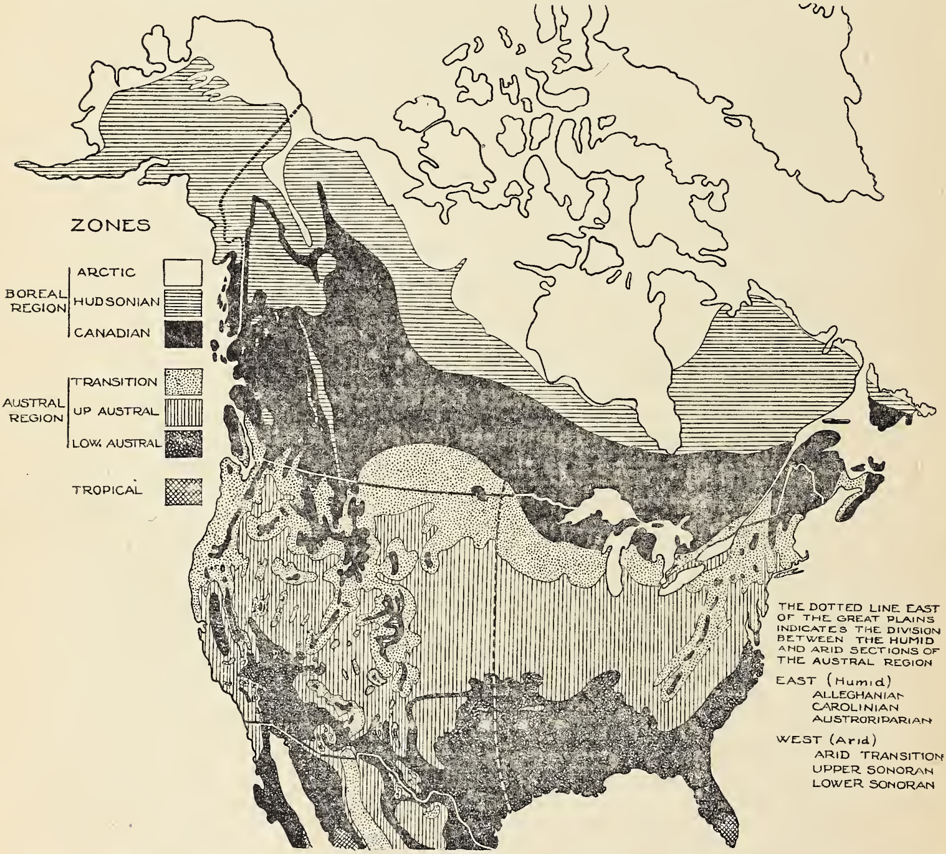
II. Austral (Southern) Region
  1. Transition Zone
    a. Alleghanian Faunal Area (Eastern)
    b. Arid Transition Faunal Area (Western)
    c. Pacific Coast Faunal Area
  2. Upper Austral Zone
    a. Carolinian Faunal Area (Eastern)
    b. Upper Sonoran Faunal Area (Western)
  3. Lower Austral Zone
    a. Austroriparian Faunal Area (Eastern)
    b. Lower Sonoran Faunal Area (Western)

III. Tropical Region (consisting of the tip of Florida and the tip of Lower California).

One can determine from the life zone map (Map I) that Kentucky falls into the Upper Austral Zone. As will be noted from the



THE DOTTED LINE EAST OF THE GREAT PLAINS INDICATES THE DIVISION BETWEEN THE HUMID AND ARID SECTIONS OF THE AUSTRAL REGION

EAST (Humid)
ALLEGHANIAN
CAROLINIAN
AUSTRORIPARIAN

WEST (Arid)
ARID TRANSITION
UPPER SONORAN
LOWER SONORAN

Map I, Life Zones, published through the courtesy of Roger Tory Peterson and THE AUDUBON MAGAZINE.

preceding table, the transcontinental zones of the Austral Region have been divided into an eastern humid area and a western arid area. Thus Kentucky also falls into the Carolinian Faunal Area. In the eastern mountain regions, though, the Transition Zone, or the Alleghanian Faunal Area, replaces the Carolinian Faunal Area south into northern Georgia. A bird that is characteristic of the Alleghanian Area is the Chestnut-sided Warbler (**Dendroica pensylvanica**). It breeds throughout the area in low brushy clearings or bushy borders of second growth woodland, choosing the same habitat, whether in southern Saskatchewan, Maine, or eastern Kentucky.

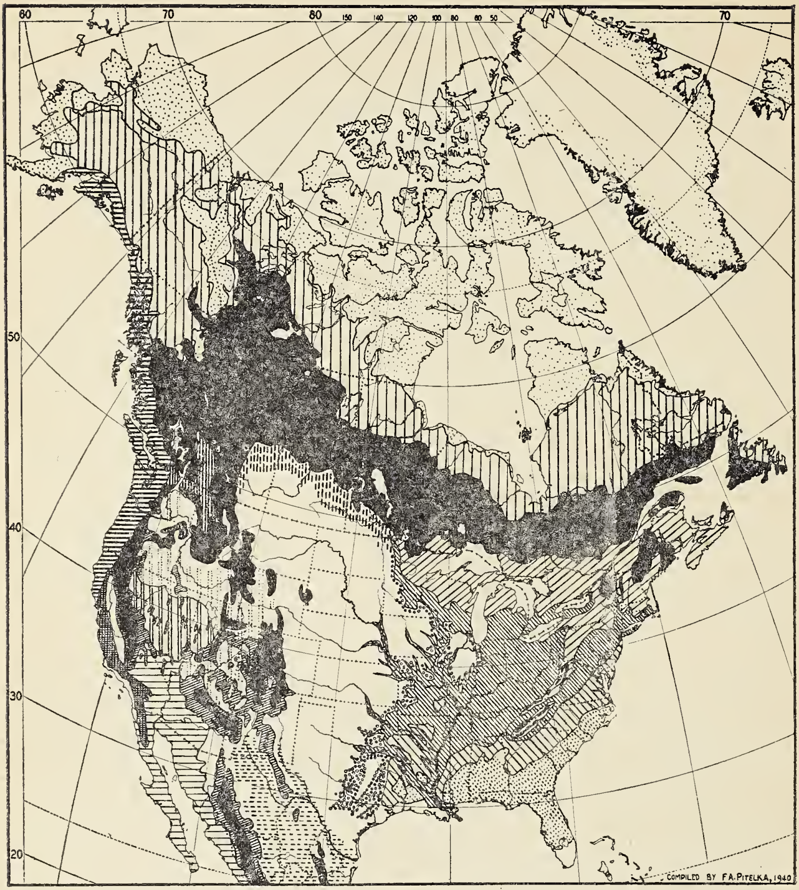
In some of the higher elevations in Kentucky, as well as in many other spots in Tennessee, North Carolina, West Virginia, etc., local areas of the more northerly Canadian Zone are found. Merriam stated that these areas were defined by the same temperatures, but they are all also characterized by coniferous trees and associate vegetation. One of our well-known winter residents in central Kentucky is the Slate-colored Junco (**Junco hyemalis hyemalis**), which builds its nest of moss on or near the ground under spruces or pines, whether at Hudson Bay or in the mountains of New York. However, the breeding form in the southern Appalachians becomes slightly modified in color and size and is given the sub-specific name of Carolina Junco (**Junco hyemalis carolinensis**).

Similarly, Merriam and his followers have selected certain species of the flora and fauna for each of the faunal areas and have called them **indicators** of that particular area. On critical examination, however, it will be found that these avian indicators bear a definite and peculiar relationship to the vegetation of the area in which they are found.

Since this life-zone system bore the authority of the national government, it was adopted by ornithologists without critical analysis and has become firmly entrenched in the fifty years of its use. However, while the Boreal Region correlates well with known biological facts, the remaining divisions violate biotic communities and present so many discrepancies that the value of the zones lies chiefly now in a designation of a geographic area. Suffice it to say here that Dice (1923)[4], Kendeigh (1932)[5], Shelford (1932)[6], and Daubenmire (1938)[7], among others, have seriously questioned this theory.

During the past several decades, plant and animal ecologists have evolved a theory, based on the correlation of plant and animal life within biotic communities and involving the principles of plant successions. In brief, bare land such as tilled fields, if located in Kentucky, would in time, if left alone, be successively covered by grass, herbs, shrubs, open woodland, and mature forest. This series of stages is known as a **sere**, and the early stages are called **seral.** The final stage, which is self-perpetuating, is called the **climax,** and its immediate predecessor is the **sub-climax.** Major units of landscape are called **biomes,** such as grassland, deciduous forest, coniferous forest, tundra, etc. Biomes may be called "the largest plant and animal communities in dynamic equilibrium in the final climax state." The biome includes not only the characteristic vegetational dominants, but it includes all other vegetation of a developmental or subordinate nature. Transition areas between biomes are characterized by intergradation of the two vegetation types; these areas of blending are called **ecotones.**

One may see from the accompanying map (Map II) that the extreme northern area of the continent is called the **tundra biome,** corresponding to the Arctic Alpine Life Zone; the next area (verti-



Map II, Biomes, published through the courtesy of Frank A. Pitelka, THE AMERICAN MIDLAND NATURALIST, and its editor, Dr. Theodor Just, Notre Dame, Indiana.

cally hatched) is the **tundra-coniferous** forest ecotone, or **sub-arctic** forest, corresponding to the Hudsonian Life Zone; the black area is the **coniferous forest** biome, corresponding to the Canadian Life Zone. That these three areas roughly coincide in the two systems is due to the fact that the life zones, based on temperature, coincidentally agree with the vegetation.

The remaining areas differ in the two systems, the biomes running rather vertically, while the life zones cross the continent horizontically. Thus the great grassland biome, extending from Texas into Canada, is one unit instead of being cut up transversally into three life zones.

Pitelka (1941)[8] has stated that the evolution of birds doubtlessly involves the fitting of each species into an ecological niche; that is, a particular position of the biotic environment in relation to shelter, food, predators, or that place in the environment characteristically frequented by the species. Habitat niches that make up the developmental stages of a biome are very frequently found in several biomes. This is due not only to the numerous natural (or primary) plant successions but also to man-made (or secondary) successions such as those caused by forest fires or clearings, causing nature to start its chain of plant succession over again. While certain species agree well with the limits of biotic communities, such as our Tufted Titmouse (**Baeolophus bicolor**) in the deciduous forest biome, the Prairie Chicken (**Tymphanuchus cupido**) in the tall-grass associations of the grassland biome, and the Ptarmigans (**Lagopus repestris,** etc.) in the tundra biome, yet many others are characteristic of the seral stages and thus range over several biomes. The Ruffed Grouse **Bonasa umbellus**) is an example of this class. It is a game bird of the sub-climax forest edge and brushy thickets, formerly found all through Kentucky but now, because of man, restricted to our eastern mountains and to a few isolated areas in other portions of the state.

The Red-eyed Vireo (**Vireo olivaceus**), abundant here in Kentucky and throughout the deciduous forest biome, also occupies subclimax associations in the coniferous forest portion of its range. The Ovenbird (**Seiurus aurocapillus**), an inhabitant of the climax deciduous forest floor, common in the Kentucky mountains and occasionally found breeding adjacent to Louisville, falls also to a sub-climax position in the coniferous forest biome.

These last three species are examples that occupy niches occurring in several biomes. The question arises, then, as to what are the factors which govern the suitability or availability of the niche. The more important are the following: 1—temperature, which is a delimiting factor (by this is meant not the summation of temperatures as in the life-zone theory but rather the extremes of hot and cold, which mark northern and southern boundaries).; 2—the availability of the proper type of food supply; 3—the availability of shelter; 4—the degree of humidity; 5—miscellaneous factors, such as competition with other species, geographical barriers, etc., which, while relatively unimportant in themselves, yet in some cases may change the balance of other major factors (for instance, within local situations the absence of a singing post for some species may cause an otherwise altogether suitable niche to be unoccupied.); 6—the **vegetational life-form,** which is very important. This last-named term is used to designate the physical aspect of the vegetation or the material in, on, or from which the bird builds its nest, seeks its food, and finds its shelter. It may also be said to include a few forms that are not **life** but rather **physical** forms on which the bird nests. For example, the Duck Hawk (**Falco peregrinus**) nests locally on inaccessible cliff ledges in the mountains of Tennessee, in Greenland, in Alaska, and in California, places located in various life zones and biomes. The nesting material is negligible, and the physical characters of the nesting site, together with the proximity of water and food supply, seem to be the controlling factors, not the temperature. The Cliff Swallow (**Petrochelidon albifrons**), too, adopts a physical form. In this case it builds its gourd-shaped nest of mud pellets and fastens it to the face of a cliff or building.

The Spotted Sandpiper (**Actitis macularia**), in common with many other shore birds, chooses a depression in the dry ground near water, for its nest. It breeds from the tree line in the north to Texas and the Carolinas. Thus it also nests in many life zones and biomes, and the presence of the physical form of its breeding locale and the availability of its specialized food supply constitute its niche.

In Kentucky, as well as in Michigan, the Prothonotary Warbler **(Prothonotaria citrea)** nests in the holes of old rotted stumps near water; yet recently it has been reported that in Kentucky[9] three different families used mail boxes because of lack of natural facilities. This emphasizes the importance of the life-form in the selection of the nesting site.

Peterson[10] has pointed out that the Redstart **(Sethophaga ruticilla)** chooses slender deciduous trees, twenty or thirty or forty years old as its life-form. This warbler prefers the second-growth trees in the deciduous forest biome, but also occupies the birch and aspen areas in the coniferous forest biome. In these sub-climax areas the original spruces have been burned or cut away, and the slender birches and aspens have grown in, later to be replaced in turn by the conifers.

The Horned Larks **(Otocoris alpestris)** furnish a good illustration of the importance of life-forms. In this case the life-forms consist of broad expanses of short grass. The various races breed from the equatorial highlands of Columbia, through the hot plains regions, on up to the Arctic tundra, ranging through at least five life zones and several biomes. The Prairie Horned Lark **(Otocoris alpestris praticola)** has constantly extended its range since the advent of the white man. The name **prairie** is a misnomer, as this race does not occupy the tall-grass associations of the climax prairie but prefers areas of low grass or even plowed fields where there is little or no grass. It was originally not found in Kentucky,[11] but as clearings were made, it moved in, and this year and last it has been found nesting at Louisville. It has also worked its way to the Atlantic seaboard, utilizing golf links and the grassy stretches bordering the highways.

A much different life-form is presented in the case of the Osprey **(Pandion haliaetus)**, which depends on fish for its food. This bird generally builds its bulky nest in the top of a tree near water, and it is not only found in many biomes or life zones but is represented generally throughout the world. Nests built in the coniferous forest biome on the coast of Maine appear to be identical in structure and location with nests built on the shore of Chesapeake Bay, in the Lower Austral Zone.

The Flicker **(Colaptes auratus)**, with which we are all familiar, nests in every Kentucky orchard or park where a dead limb is available. Breeding north to the tree line in the subarctic ecotone, this ant-eating woodpecker illustrates the importance of the life-form, regardless of the zone or biome.

The correlation of species with seral stages can be demonstrated in two of the areas in Kentucky under the supervision of the National Park Service. In both the Mammoth Cave National Park and the Otter Creek Recreational Area farm lands have been taken out of tillage, and human habitations removed. In the last ten years the fields have grown into shrubs and young woodlands. Such species as the English Sparrow **(Passer domesticus)**, Meadowlark **(Sturnella magna)**, Robin **(Turdus migratorius)**, and Bluebird **(Sialia sialis)** are disappearing, while other species are moving in to occupy the new niches in the making. As the fields grow into low brush, the Field Sparrow **(Spizella pusilla)** moves in. Into these same areas comes the Song Sparrow **(Melospiza melodia)** wherever wet spots or streams are found. When the brushy areas grow into open woodland, we find the Yellow-throated Vireo **(Vireo flavifrons).** As the wooded areas mature and some of the older orchards decay, we find the Downy Woodpecker **(Dryobates pubescens)**, which utilizes the dead limbs for its home. During these years the life zone of these regions has not shifted, but the bird population has. This has been due to the advancement of the seral stages of the biome, with their attendant change in the life-form of the dominant vegetation.

All last fall and winter in our eastern mountains lumbermen were cutting large areas of climax timber to supply our war needs. With the coming of spring these areas were exposed to sun, wind, and weather without the protection of trees. As a result, when summer came, the usual flora and fauna found on the forest floor faced adverse conditions and died away. Along with this change the Veery **(Hylocichla fuscescens)** left, too, as its niche in the ferns and mosses had been destroyed. Along the stream edges, in the brush and thickets of these newly opened areas the Northern Yellow-throat **(Geothlypis trichas)** came in, but its similarily colored relative, the Kentucky Warbler **(Oporornis formosus)**, deserted its former haunts, since the dense shade of the forest had gone, and the ground flora had changed. But, taking its place on the drier hillsides in the brushy debris of the logging operations, could be found the Redeyed Towhee **(Pipilo erythrophthalmus.)** Here again the same life zone that designated the area last year still designates it this year. Yet the flora and fauna have changed in nearly every respect. Man has caused the climax community to revert to a much earlier seral stage of the biome. The characteristic vegetation of the new stage has introduced a new life-form and created different niches, which offer breeding sites for the species adapted to them and exclude those that are not adapted.

It may be of interest to note here that the more varied the vegetation, the more niches there will be. These in turn provide nesting sites for more species, so that the nesting population of a certain area increases with an increasing variation in its vegetational life forms. Beecher[12] found that small plots of one type of vegetation, interspersed with areas of a different vegetational type, gave a higher population density per unit area than that same unit would have given had it been covered by a uniform vegetational type. His study indicates that the increase in population density is due to the amount of edge, or border vegetation, separating two different types of plant communities.

Space does not permit further elaboration, but, suffice it to say, the niche may be very localized, or it may be widespread. It may be found in various biomes. However, because of competition with other species or because climatic or other factors exceed its limit of tolerance, a species may not occupy the entire niche available to it. Often species are found to reach the boundaries of their abundance deep within or off to one side of their supposedly normal range.

An illustration of the influence of these delimiting factors is afforded by a consideration of the Parula Warbler **(Compsothlypis americana)**. Audubon and Alexander Wilson, both of whom called it the Blue Yellow-backed Warbler, and also Nuttall, who called it the Particolored Warbler, stated that it breeds abundantly in Kentucky. Yet it is much localized now. Wilson[13] admits that he never had found its nest, while Nuttall[14] quotes Audubon[15] as saying that the nest is built of lichens in the outermost fork of a swaying branch in the top of the tree. For many years standard works of reference have given the range of the Parula as the eastern United States but assert that the nest is built in the hanging moss, which certainly would tend to restrict its range. Even after the taxonomists designated the northern race of this warbler as a sub-species, making it **Compsothlypis americana pusilla**, leading texts still describe the southern form as nesting in the hanging moss, **Tillandsia**,, while they give the northern form as nesting in the **Usnea** "moss," which is in reality a lichen. However, Forbush, in his BIRDS OF MASSACHUSETTS, states that other nesting materials are sometimes used, but even then this warbler attempts to affix bits of usnea to the outside, perhaps for concealment. These two traditional nesting materials occurring in totally different biomes or life zones are botanically unrelated, though their physical form is alike to the bird. Just recently, though, Petrides[16] has pointed out that various observers have found Parulas nesting in New York, Washington, D. C., and West Virginia, areas in which hanging moss is not generally available. Two nests were found in clumps of debris caught on overhanging branches while the Potomac River was flooded. Others were built, pendant fashion, of leaf skeletons, bits of twine, hickory catkins, etc. The interesting fact to note here is that the birds occupying the intermediate area between the southern cypress swamps and the northern coniferous forest have used substitute materials which in a general way give the stringy, moss-like appearance to the nest. To be facetious, one might say, "To attract Parulas to your home, tie clumps of excelsior to the highest branches of your trees."

The question arises as to how the numbers of these warblers in the Carolinian Area, where there is normally no moss, compare with its concentrations in its Austro-riparian and Alleghanian Areas, where its favorite life-form, the moss, is readily available. If their occurrence is comparatively sparse where the moss is lacking, might it not logically be due to this fact? And might not the comparatively few individuals that do breed in the Carolinian Faunal Area be pioneer spirits, venturing out and making use of the best substitutes that nature in this area would provide?

In summary, I have attempted to show that:

1. The basic concept of the life-zone theory is invalid, and that while temperature is an important factor, the value of the life-zone concept now lies in the designation of certain geographic areas.

2. The more recent concept of the relationships between the flora and fauna of a biotic community accord with known biological facts and embrace the biome with its various developmental stages.

3. Breeding birds generally show a fidelity to a particular life-form which is vegetational in character, though some species use a physical form, both of which are usually associated with a niche or habitat.

4. The extension or limitation of this life-form is a major factor in the complex which governs the distribution of breeding birds. (Grateful acknowledgment is made to Frank A. Pitelka for helpful suggestions in the preparation of this paper).

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SOME PLANS FOR 1944

In spite of the war our members are carrying on their study of birds. In our next volume, 1944, we are to have a number of interesting things, articles that will further the cause of ornithology. Dr. Lovell is working on an article about the late nesting of the Mourning Dove. Miss Schneider is collecting material on the nesting range of the Chuck-will's-widow; an excellent cut has already been made to accompany this article. Mrs. Stamm is making a study of the nesting range of the House Wren in Kentucky. Miss Slack is to publish serially her exhaustive bibliography of Kentucky ornithology. Miss Mason is working on a range study of the Song Sparrow. Our composite "Non-breeding Birds of Kentucky" is nearing completion.

Then there are to be many short notes, items of interest about our members, the annual censuses taken at Christmas, the winning Junior Academy article, and a new feature—notes and items of interest from the Beckham Bird Club. Stand by us in spirit and financially during the trying months ahead of us.

Dr. Lovell will welcome any record of the nesting of the Mourning Dove in September. Write him a card at once for his forthcoming article.

* * * * * *

SEASON FOR SHOOTING DOVES

I wonder why man wants to kill . . . . I heard
A shot fired, saw a dove fall wounded—dying—
And then lie still. The frightened mate, descrying
What had befallen the poor, hapless bird,
First circled far above, then flew to cover.
Last spring I liked to watch them bill and coo;
I envied her whom he would gently woo;
I fear I coveted her faithful lover.
In our peach tree I saw them build their nest,
Brave storms together, hatch and feed their young.
They knew me for their friend, a frequent guest.
Now, tearful notes from feathered throat are sung.
Sweet innocence, betrayed by man, is left
To mourn, inhuman hearts make Earth bereft!

—SUE WYATT SEMPLE, Providence.

* * * * * *

CHRISTMAS CENSUSES

Be sure to take a Christmas census again this year if you have normally done so; if you have never sent in a census, do so this year. We need more and more areas in the state represented in this annual bird count. Stay out all day, choose as many types of habitat as possible, count species and individuals, and mail the results to the editor not later than January 5, so the censuses can appear in the winter issue. Be sure to state the temperature, the weather conditions, the names of all participants in the census. the places visited, and the distances covered. Organize as many parties as you have trained leaders and pool the results of your day in the open.

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DR. FRAZER HONORED

Dr. T. Atchison Frazer, our "grand old man" of the K. O. S. was honored by the Kentucky Medical Society at their annual meeting in October, 1943, by being voted the most outstanding general practitioner in the state. An excellent picture of him and a good, sympathetic article appeared in the COURIER-JOURNAL.

THE NEST OF A KENTUCKY WARBLER

By HARVEY B. LOVELL, Louisville

Although our official publication is named after the Kentucky Warbler (**Oporornis formosus**), no complete description of its nest has as yet appeared in this journal. Because of its retiring habits, which cause it to nest in deep woods far from the crowded centers of population, few members of the K. O. S. have ever seen its nest. Only Mrs. John H. Mayer, of Cynthiana, has reported the discovery of a nest, this one containing four young, in Harrison County (KENTUCKY WARBLER, XVII (1941), 14). Yet in its proper habitat the Kentucky Warbler is one of our commonest woodland birds. Alexander Wilson, its discoverer in his journey through Kentucky in 1810, could hardly have picked a more suitable one from the still undescribed avian fauna than this beautiful, plaintive songster to bear the title Kentucky Warbler. He gave it the scientific name of **Sylvia formosa** and thus describes it in his **American Ornithology:**

"This new and beautiful species inhabits the country whose name it bears. It is also found generally in all the intermediate tracts between Nashville and New Orleans, and below that as far as the Balize, or mouths of the Mississippi, where I heard it several times, twittering among the high rank grass and low bushes of those solitary and desolate looking morasses. In Kentucky and Tennessee it is particularly numerous, frequeting low damp woods, and builds its nest in the middle of a thick tuft of rank grass, sometimes in the fork of a low bush, and sometimes on the ground: in all of which situations I have found it. The materials are loose dry grass, mixed with the light pith of weeds, and lined with hair. The female lays four, and sometimes six eggs, pure white, sprinkled with specks of reddish. I observed her sitting early in May. This species is seldom seen among the high branches; but loves to frequent low bushes and cane swamps, and is an active sprightly bird. Its notes are loud, and in threes, resembling **tweedle, tweedle, tweedle.** It appears in Kentucky from the south about the middle of April; and leaves the territory of New Orleans on the approach of cold weather; at least I was assured that it does not remain there during the winter. It appeared to me to be a restless, fighting species; almost always engaged in pursuing some of its fellows; though this might have been occasioned by its numbers, and the particular season of spring, when love and jealously rage with violence in the breasts of the feathered tenants of the grove; who experience all the ardency of those passions no less than their lord and sovereign man.

"The Kentucky Warbler is five inches and a half long, and eight inches in extent; the upper parts are an olive green; line over the eye and partly under it, and whole lower parts, rich brilliant yellow; head slightly crested, the crown deep black, towards the hind part spotted with light ash; lores, and spot curving down the neck, also black; tail nearly even at the end, and of a rich olive green; interior vanes of that and the wings dusky; legs an almost transparent pale flesh color.

"The female wants the black under the eye, and the greater part of that on the crown, having those parts yellowish. This bird is very abundant in the moist woods along the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers."

When I arrived at Otter Creek on June 7, 1943, to spend a week in the study of the natural history of the area, one of my aims was to find the nest of the Kentucky Warbler. At least two singing males proclaiming their territory could be heard constantly from the lodge at Big Bend Camps, where we made our headquarters, and others were seen and heard daily throughout the more wooded areas. For two days I scoured the surrounding forest floor, and although I found several interesting things, such as the tway-blade orchid (**Liparis liliifolia**) and nests of the Downy Woodpecker, Wood Pewee, Phoebe, and Prothonotary Warbler, the home of the Kentucky Warbler eluded me.

Finally late in the afternoon of June 9, as I was following the song of a Hooded Warbler, near the crest of the ridge between Big Bend and Lover's Leap, overlooking the Ohio River, I saw a small bird scurry out of a tuft of plants not five feet from me. She ran along the sparse understory of shrubs and vines until she was twenty feet from the nest before she flew up and uttered an alarm note for the first time. It was a Kentucky Warbler. Then the male appeared, but he discreetly remained at a much greater distance. He was more timid and seemed to lack the strong parental instinct of the female. His throat was a more brilliant yellow, and the markings on the side of his neck were darker, but otherwise the two parents were much alike. I had never heard the male singing in this particular area, and so it was only by accident that I succeeded in locating the nest.

The nest was in a grove of tall trees and about fifteen feet from the edge of a small open area. It was well hidden in a clump of vines and low seedlings forming a cover not over two feet high. Among these were a young hickory, some coralberry, a Virginia creeper, and other vines. The nest was on the ground and consisted of several layers of leaves, mostly oak, making a large, bulky mass and raising the cavity about four inches off the ground. The lining was of finer materials, chiefly grass and rootlets.

The nest measured 12.5 cm. by 13.5 cm. in diameter outside and was 10 cm. high. The inside measurements of the cavity were 5.5 cm. by 6.8 cm. in diameter by 4.5 cm. deep. The cavity was distinctly oval in appearance, as indicated by the measurements. The four eggs were white, covered with numerous brown spots concentrated at the larger ends. They measured 20 mm. by 16 mm.

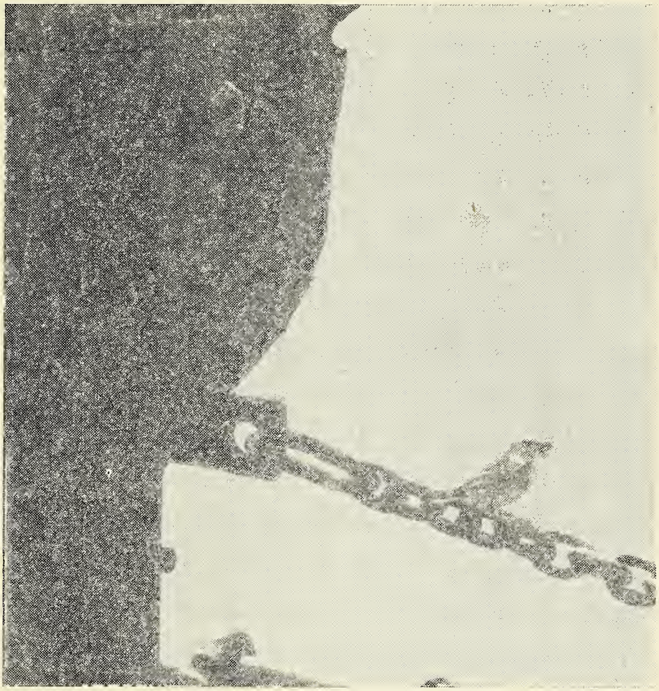
The next day we returned cautiously to the nest. The mother allowed us to come within less than four feet. She was incubating with her body placed the longer diameter of the oval nest, and her back towards us, but she watched us with one eye. She remained entirely motionless except for a slight rise and fall of her body in breathing. After five minutes she slipped off the nest, and as she crept noiselessly away under the low vegetation, she seemed to hug the ground. It was not until the bird was twenty-five feet away that she flew up to a low branch and began her loud chirping. In order not to frighten her too much, we quickly departed, but fifteen minutes later as we passed by, I trained my field glasses on the spot and observed that she was already back on the nest and in the same position.

When we had to leave Otter Creek three days later, the mother was still incubating. Only gasoline rationing prevented us from returning again to observe the habits of the nestlings and to identify them by bands.

FERRY BOAT ATTRACTS PROTHONOTARY WARBLERS

By FRED W. BINNEWIES, Chief Ranger, Mammoth Cave National Park

A pair of Prothonotary Warblers **(Prothonotaria citrea)**, which usually haunt overhanging trees and shrubs near streams but occasionally build their nests in strange places, assured themselves of a safe place for their nest when they selected the ferry boat at Mammoth Cave National Park for their home last summer. The ferry was in operation all the time, but this did not affect the desire of the birds to put their nest where it would not be molested, much to the delight of the ferry operators and the many persons that crossed the ferry. The people were thus offered an unusual opportunity of seeing this brilliant bird at close range and could keep daily watch on the development of the young.



Prothonotary Warbler near Its Ferry-boat Nest at Mammoth Cave, published through the courtesy of the National Park Service, Department of Interior.

The ferry boat was formerly propelled by means of cables, but a more recent installation of a paddle wheel on the side left a large pulley wheel at one end of the boat not in use. The wheel had a metal guard around it to drain water to the outside of the boat, and it was in the guard that the Prothonotary decided to build its nest. It was well protected from the weather, and the thoughtful ferry operator placed an additional piece of tin over the wheel for further protection. The holes in the chive provided an excellent entrance into and exit from the nest.

At first the birds were confused when they would return to the boat only to find it on the opposite side of the river. They would sometimes wait until the boat returned to the side of the river from which they had started, and at other times they would fly to the boat but would have to go to both ends of it before locating the nest. In a few days, however, they learned to go directly to the nest regardless of which side of the river the boat was on. During the incubation period the birds rode back and forth on the boat and did not leave when persons crossing the river paused to look at them.

Four brown and white eggs were laid in the nest, and three of them hatched successfully. The young birds were gray with tinges of blue on the wings and back. They grew rapidly and left the nest before it was realized that they were big enough to fly.

The period of feeding the young is always most interesting, and many visitors to the park would sit for some time for the flash of color that meant that one of the old birds was returning to the nest with a worm or bug. Usually the returning bird would pause on a tree or bush near the ferry and utter its sharp "tweet" before flying to the boat. It would then fly to the boat and alight on the chain at the end of the boat (see cut) and pause there for an instant before going to the nest. This was the time that the watchers were waiting for, because it afforded them an unusual opportunity to see at close range the brilliant orange yellow and gray of the male bird and the paler yellow and ashy gray of the female. The birds would come back to the boat from almost any direction but would warn the observer of their arrival by giving their call before flying to the nest. After entering the nest and feeding the young, the birds would emerge and pause for an instant on the wheel before flashing off in search of food.

This incident of the Prothonotary Warbler is only one of the many that a bird lover can find in the Mammoth Cave National Park, where all wild life is protected and allowed to live in natural conditions that are remote from the influences of man.

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ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

Mrs. Sue Wyatt Semple, whose "Season for Shooting Doves" appears in this issue and whose "Ruby-throated Hummingbird" and "Harbingers of Spring" were in the summer and spring issues, respectively, is Poet Laureate of Kentucky and a member of our society. She is a graduate of Western Teachers College, who gave up teaching some time ago to devote her time exclusively to writing. Her poems have appeared in many magazines, and she is widely recognized for her verse. Mrs. Semple has promised, as her contribution to our magazine and its work, to supply us with a poem for each issue henceforth.

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Leonard C. Brecher, whose article leads in this issue, received much praise from the Kentucky Academy of Science for it. The editor immediately requested it for our magazine.

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SHORT NOTES

A CITY SPARROW HAWK

One day toward the end of June, 1941, I was disturbed by the Robins in my back yard. They were making such an unusual fuss about something that I left my work and went to investigate. Their attention was centered on a Sparrow Hawk sitting on the brick walk near the kitchen door. There were more than a dozen Robins on various perches near the house, calling anxiously to each other. Occasionally one would fly down near the hawk, as if to inspect it, but I saw none of them actually peck it.

As I live in an old and thickly settled part of Louisville, I was very much surprised to see a Sparrow Hawk at all. Indeed, I have never seen any others there, before or since this time. This one, however, was definitely there and apparently a little puzzled about it. Its feathers were all fluffed up, and I thought at first it was a young bird, but I am not so sure now that it was.

When I went out on the walk, the hawk walked before me around the house; then it climbed the trunk of a maple tree next door. As it climbed, it raised its wings occasionally, but the wings, though apparently uninjured, would not bear it up. About twenty feet up in the tree the hawk settled itself and remained there the rest of the day, as I could tell by the fussing of the Robins and its own infrequent call.

About five o'clock in the afternoon two other Sparrow Hawks came to visit it and sat on the telephone wires across the street, calling anxiously. My hawk answered them but did not try to leave its perch. The visitors were not seen to leave theirs until they left an hour later.

The next morning my Sparrow Hawk was gone. I examined the tree and ground carefully but could not find so much as a feather. I like to think that the bird recovered from its indisposition and left under its own power.

Burt Monroe, to whom I told this story, suggested that the bird may have been stunned by flying into a wire.

—ESTHER E. MASON, Louisville.

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THE NIGHT HAWK'S SITTING POSTURE

Of course, everybody who knows the Nighthawk has observed its habit of sitting lengthwise on a limb. I have often found it sitting thus. On July 24, 1943, I found one sitting lengthwise on the top of the outer wall of our library building at Western, even though the stone was much thicker than the bird was long. About August 16, 1943, I saw a Nighthawk sitting on a telephone wire in front of my house, the first one I recall having seen in that position. In spite of its having to clutch the small wire to maintain its position, the bird was turned almost straight with the wire, forming a pattern that contrasted strangely with the usual pattern of birds on wires.

—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green.

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SPARROWS DROWN IN RECORD DOWNPOUR

We who have been wanting rain got our wish a week ago when the heaviest rain in the memory of man fell on London and the country all about. In forty-five minutes, between 6:35 and 7:20, exactly four inches of rain was registered in the water company lot, and the light rain that followed added another three-tenths of an inch. When John Hardin told me that he picked up 158 English Sparrows, which had been drowned, under one tree at his home at Fariston, I thought it surely must be an all-time record for such destruction. But Jailer R. W. Dyche went him several better. In the courthouse yard Monday morning he picked up (or had picked up) 942 English Sparrows, 220 under one tree, and two Flickers. There has been no report of any Starlings being drowned.

—London, (Ky.) SENTINEL-ECHO, quoted in LOUISVILLE TIMES, August 10, 1943.

* * * * * *

BIRDS NESTING ON A CITY LOT

During the last two years I have made observations on birds breeding on the lot where my home is located, 104 Northwestern Parkway. The lot, 50 by 250 feet, is at the edge of a rather thickly populated area, about four blocks from Shawnee Park, and separated from the Ohio River by a steep slope and a broad field about 900 feet in width. There are about twenty trees on the lot, including dogwood, American elm, wild cherry, black locust, spruce, water maple, and sycamore. We also have considerable shrubbery around the house and along the fence rows.

In the spring of 1942 we counted six nests: two of the Mourning Dove, about 15 feet from the ground, one in a small elm, one in a spruce; one of the Brown Thrasher in a honeysuckle bush, about seven feet from the ground; one of a Cardinal in a honeysuckle, which did not contain any eggs; and two of English Sparrows under the eaves of the house. Two Doves were brought to maturity in each nest, and the Thrashers also raised two. This year, 1943, we counted eleven nests. Mourning Doves built a nest again in the small elm and successfully raised two broods. Doves also nested about ten feet from the ground in a water maple. A third nest of this species was built in a spruce. Eggs were laid twice within two weeks in this nest, but unfortunately they were destroyed both times by predators, apparently Blue Jays. Two nests were built by Catbirds in mock-orange bushes, both about seven feet from the ground. In one nest several young were raised, but the other nest was abandoned almost immediately after construction. Wood Thrushes built two nests, both in elm trees, one about twenty-five feet from the ground, the other about thirty-five. Broods were reared in both nests. We also found one Robin's nest in a honeysuckle bush about seven feet from the ground, where young were successfully raised. Two pairs of English Sparrows nested under the eaves of the house, another pair about forty feet up in an elm. In the field back of the lot a pair of Bobwhites raised a brood of fifteen. A Song Sparrow was seen carrying nesting material into a bush in the next lot. In the two years we have found seventeen nests in a typical city lot, from which thirty-five young were brought off.

We have counted about forty different species in our yard, including, besides those already mentioned, the following: Sparrow Hawk, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Screech Owl, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Flicker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Crested Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, House Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, Yellow Warbler, Maryland Yellow-throat, Meadowlark, Baltimore Oriole, Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Indigo Bunting, Goldfinch, Slate-colored Junco, Chipping Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, and Song Sparrow.

—GEORGE G. McKINLEY, Louisville.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded—1923 by B. C. Bacon, Dr. L. Otley Pindar, and Gordon Wilson.

Purpose—To encourage the study of birds and to sponsor measures for their protection.

Organ—THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, a quarterly magazine of ornithology.

Meetings—Spring, in Louisville, at the time of the Kentucky Education Association;

Fall, in some place of interest out in the state.

Dues—One dollar a year; residents and non-residents interested in any phase of ornithology are urged to become members.

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Vice-President—Miss Mabel Slack, Atherton High School, Louisville.

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No. 1

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
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... The ...
Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Vol. XX WINTER, 1944 No. 1

WHO'S TAPPING AT MY WINDOW?

By O. A. STEVENS, Fargo, North Dakota

Who is that tapping at my window, this morning? I no longer have to guess, for I have learned the avian code. How did I learn it? That is a long story, not one of intensive study but a gradual dawning which comes to any bird student in the course of time. It came from the feeder which I built on the window ledge many years ago.

Sometimes the shelf is well patronized, sometimes it is not, for winter birds are not abundant in North Dakota. Large flocks of Snow Buntings may be found on the prairie, perhaps flocks of Lapland Longspurs, and usually a few Horned Larks. At the feeding stations in town, we usually have a few Chickadees, Nuthatches, and Woodpeckers, but some years even these are scarce.

Our feeder is a simple home-made shelf, but it has a glass top, which is an essential feature. In fair weather, food is put in blocks or trays on top of the glass. In stormy weather food is put on the shelf below, the glass providing some shelter, also allowing us to watch the birds better and helping them to see whether any guests with priority rights are in the offing. Much as we dislike to admit it, there is less harmony than tolerance among our bird guests.

The latest addition to the shelf equipment is a four-inch reading glass mounted against the pane on the window sill in the room. We have a storm sash; so the shelf is at least four inches beyond our inside pane. Some years ago I prepared a block 2x2x6 inches, with three one-inch holes drilled in it for food. This is placed on top of the glass roof of the shelf and against the storm sash pane. Finely chopped nuts kept the birds on the block longer, and we thought of trying to read the numbers on the leg bands. After having only limited success, the reading glass was devised to aid eyes which were restricted to bifocal glasses; it has done more than that. Band numbers can be read easily, if the birds are in proper position. We use No. 1 bands on Chickadees, for these turn readily on the leg. As the bird feeds, the band rotates, and the entire number can be read. The educational value is probably greater than the scientific, for our friends are always impressed when they see from across the room a Chickadee appearing as large as a two-weeks-old chicken.

We have marveled at the immediate acceptance of new foods. These winter birds are fat-eaters, and, of course, suet is the staple food usually provided for them. But in nature the birds feed chiefly on insects and would rarely have access to suet. Sunflower seeds are excellent, and to these the birds have access in nature. We always

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have a few sunflower plants in the garden and count on these to be the first attraction for our winter birds.

Peanuts are a most convenient staple, but certainly our northern birds could not have seen a peanut before. Scarcely could they have seen, much less opened, black walnuts, but these the birds prize above all other food. English walnuts, pecans, hickory nuts, and hazel nuts are acceptable in the order named. We thought they would like oily Brazil nuts, but these nuts were hardly touched, even when cut up. Hemp seeds are slippery and not readily handled by these birds with slender bills; so we presume that is why hemp was refused.

Bread is not desired by these winter guests. Once I put popcorn in the food block, but it was promptly tossed out. Pie crust and doughnuts contain fat and are eaten readily. Squash seeds are fairly popular, especially in the fall before the birds have become spoiled by the peanut-walnut diet. They seem to prefer their suet raw. At least, I have not had success with melted preparations. We have compared different nuts by chopping them up and placing different kinds in the three holes of the food block. The birds seem to prefer roasted to raw peanuts, and they decidedly do not like them hard and brown. One of my first observations on food preferences was that the birds carried off the thick peanut halves and left the "hearts" behind. Tasting the hearts, I found them decidedly bitter.

The cost of peanuts is considerable, and it vexes us when the birds discard pieces not cut to suit them (we suppose). Nuthatches seem especially finicky and sometimes will toss out half a dozen pieces before finding one to their liking. Woodpeckers stick mostly to suet, but now and then one acquires a taste for peanuts. The Hairy Woodpeckers, which are frequently guests, turn their heads sidewise to gather up pieces of nuts lying in the shallow tray.

Frankly, our birds' manners are not good. There is a distinct order of privilege. Usually the White-breasted Nuthatch chases the Red-breasted and the Red-breasted chases the Chickadees. Occasionally, a Chickadee will assert himself and chase a Nuthatch. Almost always one Chickadee is "king," and others follow in order, awaiting their turns. They even fight disgracefully at times.

They must waste a lot of energy, flying away with a small piece to eat and then back again. But if they were given larger pieces, they would lose many of them and waste still more. Occasionally, a Chickadee will endeavor to economize on time by taking about three pieces at once, and it is most amusing to watch the "pig" Chickadee, as we call him, trying to get three pieces into his bill at once. We believe they are inclined to hide food early in the winter, before they have learned to trust us. Once I watched a Nuthatch, which carried in rapid succession seven squash seeds in about as many directions and tucked them under shingles or in other cracks.

Sometimes we have rare guests. Once a Red-breasted Nuthatch stayed all winter. Sometimes a Brown Creeper stays and becomes attached to a diet of finely chopped nuts. In the cold grey of winter mornings, the Creeper used to come first. From a large tree, which is near the window, he seemed to drop to the house foundation, but an upward turn brought him to the shelf. After feeding, he would drop to the base of the tree and crouch motionless for some minutes. And how uncomfortable he seemed at the door of the cocoanut-shell feeder, his tail tucked under, for it found no tree trunk against which to prop, and his body doing a walking-beam motion as he reached in and drew back with a morsel.

Our hospitality hardly covers the English Sparrows. No wonder they are able to endure our winters, considering the amount of food which they eat. We dispose of a few by trapping, but there seem to be always several remaining. I have read that they will avoid a swinging feeder, but ours seem to surmount all obstacles. The cocoanut shell suspended by a wire puzzles novices for only a while. Where I had suspended a suet cage by a short wire, I have seen them sit on a tree twig and try to reach the suet. Once, at least, I saw one grip a loosened bit of suet and hang suspended, tugging by wing beats.

On the shelf, I partly shut out the sparrows by placing a block, to which a vertical piece of screen was attached, in front of the food trays. The Chickadees slipped past the ends of the screen, but the English Sparrows hesitated until the screen had become moved to some extent. I thought the screen nearly touched the glass above until a Chickadee decided to go over the screen instead of around it.

Last winter, I think I outwitted the English Sparrows by enclosing the suet stick in a 6-inch cylinder of wire netting. This is suspended by a wire, and another stick, fastened to the netting and protruding below it, makes a convenient landing-place for tree-climbers. The cautious Hairy Woodpecker was a bit slow to go inside the screen, but soon he was adept at creeping through it. To the Chickadees and Downies it offered no trouble.

This experiment followed another in which I tried to be very scientific. I prepared a feeding stick with holes an inch deep and fastened on the outside of that block a quarter-inch board of hard fir, with three-eighths-inch holes, enlarged inward. I reasoned that the woodpeckers could reach the deeper parts of these holes, but the small exterior openings would block the English Sparrow's thick, short bill. Soon after hanging it out, I came home to find the snow littered with splinters; the Hairies had enlarged the holes in my hard board!

How many things there are to learn about feeding habits! Chickadees always hold a piece of nut with one or both feet. Especially through the reading glass one can watch as the nut meat melts away under the rapid bites. Nuthatches swallow the piece whole, if possible; otherwise they must wedge it into a corner and hammer. Never do they hold it with the feet. One understands now why Nuthatches stand head down, for the top of a stub of bark is an ideal wedging-place.

But I wanted to tell about tapping. We have a small wire suet cage at each end of the shelf, and this is where most of the pounding takes place. I have always had difficulty in distinguishing Downies and Hairies by size alone. The alleged bars on the tail did not help much. But at close range the size of the bill and its work leaves no doubt. The Downy taps gently at the cold suet, but the Hairy goes "whang, whang." The Chickadees nibble rapidly; the English Sparrows peck like hens. The White-breasted Nuthatch stabs with a determined force, not so rapidly as the Downy or so violently as the Hairy. The shelf resounds against the house, and as each species of bird identifies himself, I no longer wonder who's tapping at my window.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT, 1943

	Paducah	Morganfield	Marion	Bowling Green	Louisville	Otter Creek	Lexington	Maysville	John's Run
1. Common Loon					1				
2. Pied-Billed Grebe				1	2				
3. Double-Crested Cormorant					1				
4. Great Blue Heron				x					
5. American Bittern								1	
6. Canada Goose		500	45				3	30	
7. Mallard		11500	500	13	1	6			
8. Black Duck		8	6	3	2	4			
9. Lesser Scaup	2								
10. American Golden-Eye					4				
11. Ruddy Duck					10				
12. Hooded Merganser				1	6				
13. Turkey Vulture			2	7					
14. Black Vulture				55	2		1		
15. American Goshawk					1				
16. Sharp-Shinned Hawk				2					
17. Cooper's Hawk		1	1	2	3	1		1	
18. Red-Tailed Hawk		1	2	5		3			
19. Red-Shouldered Hawk		1	1	1	2				
20. Am. Rough-Legged Hawk				x					
21. Bald Eagle			1						
22. Marsh Hawk	1	3	3	x					
23. Duck Hawk					2				
24. Sparrow Hawk	1	3	3	11	13		7	1	x
25. Ruffed Grouse									x
26. Bob-White		x	44	23	x	12		9	x
27. American Coot				x					
28. Killdeer					3				
29. Wilson's Snipe				1					
30. Herring Gull	5	14			21	2			
31. Ring-Billed Gull					1				
32. Rock Dove					24				
33. Mourning Dove	11	6	65	241			8		
34. Screech Owl					1			1	
35. Barred Owl	1								
36. Belted Kingfisher	1			4	5	2			
37. Flicker	4	7	8	26	16	1		2	2
38. Pileated Woodpecker		1	5	13		1			
39. Red-Bellied Woodpecker		21	8	18	16	3			
40. Red-Headed Woodpecker			1	3	2				
41. Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker				x		1		1	
42. Hairy Woodpecker		8	4	7	5				
43. Downy Woodpecker	3	33	65	41	28	11		8	4
44. Phoebe				3					
45. Prairie Horned Lark			2	131			52		

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT (Continued)

	Paducah	Morganfield	Marion	Bowling Green	Louisville	Otter Creek	Lexington	Maysville	John's Run
46. Blue Jay	8	22	62	66	41	2	4		x
47. Eastern Crow	7	958	350	2525	60	53	2000	11	2
48. Southern Crow							10		
49. Carolina Chickadee	3	26	150	137	88	22	7	4	26
50. Tufted Titmouse	1	16	150	120	95	20	2	7	12
51. White-Breasted Nuthatch		2		2	10	4			
52. Brown Creeper		6	1	5	5			1	
53. Winter Wren			1	2	1		2		
54. Bewick's Wren	1	1	2	1					
55. Carolina Wren	3	6	11	55	29	5		20	11
56. Mockingbird	4	3	16	24	20	2	6	3	
57. Robin		x	11	19	x			x	
58. Hermit Thrush				7					
59. Bluebird	4	8	41	52	32	1		x	x
60. Golden-Crowned Kinglet				7	8	3			6
61. Ruby-Crowned Kinglet						1	4		
62. Cedar Waxwing			32	111					
63. Migrant Shrike	1		3		1				
64. Starling	72	29	325	270	5383		1000	6	
65. Myrtle Warbler		1	5	7		7			
66. English Sparrow	135	213	x	230	313		x	13	28
67. Meadowlark	2	2	48	24	19				
68. Red-Winged Blackbird			1						
69. Rusty Blackbird				3					
70. Bronzed Grackle				1					
71. Cowbird			16	x					
72. Cardinal	19	49	1000	188	336	25	13	9	16
73. Purple Finch	9			22		2			
74. Goldfinch	3	10	5	92	13	3			16
75. Towhee	2	1	18	59	26	2		14	1
76. Vesper Sparrow			1						
77. Slate-Colored Junco	1	117	500	178	84	25	32	63	32
78. Tree Sparrow		52	10	24	29	19		x	
79. Field Sparrow	4		11	31	1	3		6	10
80. White-Crowned Sparrow	2	20	250	79	9		81		8
81. White-Throated Sparrow		4	246	42	5		13		
82. Fox Sparrow			4	1	6	2			
83. Swamp Sparrow			10	5		4			
84. Song Sparrow	17	9	100	66	37	4	3	4	13

(An x indicates that the species was recorded during the Christmas holidays but not on the day of the official count).

PADUCAH (Barkley Park, down Ohio and north segment of floodwall, back by Indian Mound at Perkins' Creek trestle, cemeteries, and Park Street). Dec. 31; 11:00 A. M. to 3:30 P. M. Ground largely frozen; fog and dense clouds rendered visibility poor and may have affected identifications, forcing use of notes, silhouettes, and characteristic movements in checking; temp. 32 to 34 F. Total, 29 species, 327 individuals.

—A. L. PICKENS, Paducah Junior College.

MORGANFIELD (Morganfield to Hardin's Station, five miles southwest; meadows, woods, dried-up slough, along railroad, and through orchard; back through Morganfield to Uniontown; up Ohio River by road past Poker's Point, about two miles). Dec. 22; 8:00 A. M. to noon, 2:00 to 6:00 P. M. Wind, northwest, fairly light, becoming stronger and very disagreeable after noon; cloudy all day, dark cloudy in afternoon; temp. 26 to 30 F. Observers together; 4½ miles on foot, 34 miles in car. We believe the estimates of the ducks and geese to be conservative. The ice on Hovey's Lake (in Indiana, north of Uniontown) had forced these waterfowl over to the Ohio River. Total, 37 species, 13,662 individuals.

—BILLY STYLES, Morganfield, and ROBERT L. WITT, Freed-Hardeman College, Henderson, Tennessee.

MARION (City Lake and along Ohio River bottoms). Dec. 24; 8:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Raining; light wind; temp. 50 F. The Myrtle Warblers were not seen on the trip but were seen the day before. This is our first rcord of this species after the middle of November. These birds were feeding on horseweed seeds with hosts of Juncoes, sparrows of various kinds, Carolina Chickadees, and Cardinals. We have an unusual number of Cardinals this winter. Total, 49 species, 4,146 individuals.

—CHASTAIN L. and DR. T. ATCHISON FRAZER.

BOWLING GREEN (Chaney, McElroy, and Albert Covington Farms; down Drake's Creek and Barren River from Scottsville Pike to Bowling Green; wooded stream banks, 60%; open woods, 30%; pastures and cultivated fields, 10%). Dec. 19. Fair in morning, overcast in afternoon; temp. 24 to 44 F.; wind, west, 8-12 m. p. h.; ground bare, still places of streams frozen over. Five observers in three parties. Total hours, 26, on foot; total miles, 37. At a vulture roost G. W. found 52 Blacks and 1 Turkey, just after sunrise. Total, 56 species, 5,310 individuals. Other species recorded during the holidays: Great Blue Heron, American Rough-legged Hawk, Marsh Hawk, American Coot, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, and Cowbird.

—Roger W. Barbour, B. C. Cole, L. Y. Lancaster, Charles L. Taylor, and Gordon Wilson (compiler), Western Kentucky State Teachers College.

LOUISVILLE (Ohio River from Pipe Line Lane to Twelve-mile Island; inland about five miles along Bear Grass, Goose, Harrods, and Pond Creeks; and adjacent parks and farm lands: deciduous woodlands 45%; open farm lands, 25%; city parks, 15%; Ohio River 15%). Dec. 19. Fair; temp. 22 to 49 F.; wind, west, 8-12 m. p. h.; creeks frozen, Ohio River open. Fourteen observers in eight parties. Total hours, 35, on foot; total miles, 36. The Ruddy Ducks were observed at 200 yards through a 24x telescope by H. B. L. The Goshawk was seen at close range by A. S., the gray breast being very obvious. The Rock Doves were living on ledges in an abandoned quarry. The Screech Owl was found dead. In the business district we observed a Starling roost, with approximately 5000 birds in it.

This number is far below previous numbers, since the old Federal Building, their former roosting place, has been torn down. An increase in Carolina Wrens was noted, although sparrows and Juncoes were unusually scarce. Coverage of the Ohio River was reduced by war rectrictions. Total, 50 species, approx. 6,529 individuals. One Robin was seen on Dec. 20 and five Bob-whites on Dec. 25.

—Leonard Brecher, Helen Browning, W. M. Clay, O. K. Dieterick, Louise Isfort, Harvey B. Lovell (compiler), Ethel W. Lovell, Esther Mason, Marie Peiper, Mabel Slack, Ann Stamm, F. W. Stamm, Evelyn Schneider, S. Charles Thacher, Audrey Wright (Beckham Bird Club).

OTTER CREEK (Recreational Demonstration Area, in Meade County; along Otter Creek, Ohio River, and through cabin area; deciduous woodland, 65%; grassland, 5%; Ohio River 20%). Jan. 23. Sunny; temp. 37 to 49 F.; almost no wind. Three observers in one party; six miles on foot; six and a half hours. Total species, 33; individuals, 316. In addition to the ducks listed by name we saw sixty others that could not be identified with certainty with field glasses because they were so far away. Mr. Guy, the area manager, showed us the covey of Bobwhites. The Purple Finches were feeding on coral berries; the Myrtle Warblers were around the red cedars.

—HARVEY B. LOVELL and MR. AND MRS. FRED W. STAMM

LEXINGTON (900-acre farm near Kentucky River). Dec. 26; 10:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Misty rain all day; temp. 41 to 46 F. The Prairie Horned Larks seem to have originated from a single pair which nested on the farm in May, 1936, and have continuously remained and increased in numbers since the first nesting. They appear to be non-migratory. Total, 19 species, approx. 3,248 individuals.

—VICTOR K. DODGE and CHARLES MORRELL

MAYSVILLE (Mason County; partially wooded hills). Dec. 31; five hours on foot. Observers together; five miles. Ground covered with two inches of snow; sky overcast; no wind; temp. 36 F. Total 22 species, 301 individuals. Other species recorded on December 29: Robin, Bluebird, Tree Sparrow.

—TODD MILES AND FRANK QUIGLEY.

JOHN'S RUN (six miles over fields and through woodlands). Dec. 26; 9:30 A. M. to 3:30 P. M. Cloudy, misting; temp. 38 to 40 F. Total, 15 species, 187 individuals. The week preceding Christmas the following species were seen: Ruffed Grouse, Blue Jay, Bobwhite, Bluebird, and Sparrow Hawk. The Juncoes have fallen far behind in numbers this year in my section.

—ERCEL KOZEE

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JUNIOR ACADEMY DEPARTMENT

(Note: The census from Maysville was so representative that it has been recorded in the tabulation of counts above.—Editor).

MOREHEAD (Rowan County; west of Morehead, along Blair Creek). Cold and clear on Dec. 20; snowing on Dec. 29. Hours spent in count, 3. Hawk sp., 1; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 2; Tufted Titmouse, 5; Cedar Waxwing, 1; Starling, 97; English Sparrow, 173; Bronzed Grackle, 22; Cardinal, 36; Goldfinch, 17; Pine Siskin (?), 26; Slate-colored Junco, 31; unidentified individuals, 8. Total, 12 species, 501 individuals.

—PEGGY REYNOLDS AND ALVIN MARTIN.

BELLEVUE (Trimble County; along Miller's Creek). Dec. 22, 23, and 24. Total hours, 9. Weather cold, snowing on 22, clear and cold on 23 and 24. Hawks sp., 8; Woodpeckers sp., 2; Turkey Vulture, 8; Black Vulture, 2; Blue Jay, 2; Crow, 16; Carolina Wren, 17; Starling, 18; English Sparrow, 7; Cardinal, 3; Slate-colored Junco, 13. Total, 11 species, 107 individuals.

—W. R. SEBASTIAN

BARBOURVILLE (Knox County; near Richland and Cumberland Rivers). Dec. 26 and 29; 9½ hours; 12 miles. Weather clear, cold, with snow on ground on 26; cloudy, cold on 29. Turkey Vulture, 5; Hawks sp., 3; Bob-white, 38; Owls sp., 8; Woodpeckers sp., 20; Crow, 74; Carolina Chickadee, 13; Carolina Wren, 10; Bluebird, 32; Starling, 175; English Sparrow, 631; Meadowlark, 8; Cowbird, 50; Bronzed Grackle, 59; Cardinals, 69; Slate-colored Junco, 25. Total, 16 species, 1333 individuals. We found the bird census most interesting and very enjoyable. We observed many characteristics of the birds which we had not seen before and about which we had not read. We saw the great need of being exceedingly quiet, of moving very slowly, and of making sure of just what we saw. We learned to observe the birds without being seen by them. In this way one can understand the natural ways of birds.

—MONA HELTON AND MARIE COREY

PADUCAH (McCracken County; along a tributary of Perkins Creek and on Lone Oak Road, about 1½ miles from Paducah). Dec. 29; 2½ hours; 2 miles. Weather cool, clear. Bob-white, 6; Flicker, 1; Blue Jay, 2; Cardinal, 4; Towhee, 12; Slate-colored Junco, 28; Sparrows sp., 35. Total, 7 species, 116 individuals.

—JIMMY O'BANNON, JR.

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CENSUSES BY OUR MEMBERS ELSEWHERE

Mr. Oscar McKinley Bryens, who lives some eight hundred miles north of Kentucky, at McMillan, Michigan, took his annual census on December 25, in ten inches of snow, finding eight species, 45 individuals. At Bloomingdale, Indiana, Mrs. Dorothy Madden Hobson and her sister took their census along the Wabash River and in Turkey Run State Park in a temperature of 4 to 20, seeing 25 species, 1,195 individuals.

The large Nashville, Tennessee, delegation, many of them K. O. S. members, found 70 species, approximately 20,815 individuals, on December 26.

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THE BECKHAM BIRD CLUB

By HENRIETTA LINK

The Natural History Institute held two afternoon and evening meetings in August, 1943. On August 1, 1943, we met at the Cherokee Golf Course Clubhouse at 3:30. Field trips at 4:00 included a group of bird students led by Dr. Harvey B. Lovell. Among the numerous numbers given in the evening Dr. Lovell spoke on "Bird Nesting," illustrating his talk with kodachrome slides of bird nests. Several of our other members appeared on subjects other than ornithology. The second meeting occurred on August 8 at the Lodge, Iroquois Park. Again there was a bird walk. The feature on the after-supper program, in which the K. O. S. was represented, was an illustrated lecture by Miss Evelyn J. Schneider on "Finding Birds Around Louisville."

Many members of the Beckham Bird Club participated in some summer bird walks. A trip to Towhead Island to study shore birds was led by Dr. Lovell. Evelyn Schneider led a group in the Old Third Woods to search for the nests of the Goldfinch. Floyd Carpenter led a walk through Cherokee Park to study migrating warblers. Miss Mabel Slack is the chairman of a group that planned the walks for fall and winter, walks that are to materialize in spite of the shortage of tires and gasoline.

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The Fourth Annual Kentucky Wildlife and Natural History Conference was held at the South Park Fishing Club, September 25, 1943. From 2:30 to 4:15 field trips were scheduled: the geology group was led by R. E. Stouder and Dr. William M. Clay; the bird group by Leonard Brecher and Evelyn Schneider; the insect group by Dr. Lovell and Mary May Wyman; and the botany group by Mary Sargeant and Audrey Wright. A highlight of the program was the Naturalists' Sideshow, with Dr. Arch Cole as the barker. Those contributing to the show were the following: L. P. Aker, "Mineral Rainbows;" Dr. Harlow Bishop, "The Primordial Jitterbug;" Dr. William M. Clay, "Rattlesnake Milk;" Dr. E. K. Hall, "How Life Begins;" S. Charles Thacher, "Botanical Curiosities;" Dr. Harvey Lovell, "The Ornithologists' Tag Game." After supper the big features were addresses by Grover Page of the COURIER-JOURNAL, "Artificial Bait Fishing," and President Jacobsen of the University of Louisville, "Tales of Haiti." The organizations sponsoring the conference were the Kentucky Society of Natural History, the Louisville Municipal Hiking Club, the Louisville Astronomical Society, and the C. W. Beckham Bird Club. We owe sincere thanks to the fishing club and its president, Charles H. Dungan, for this enjoyable afternoon and evening.

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Several of our recent programs have been connected with sound. At the last meeing in the fall, Mrs. William Clay, assisted by Dr. Clay, of the University of Louisville, spoke on "The Frequency of Bird Sound." Mrs. Clay illustrated her talk by using an oscilloscope and bird recordings. The observer could see the recording of the range of frequency of the bird songs. Interesting comparisons were made with the piano keyboard. Fascinated by the moving needle of the oscilloscope, we had at our next meeting Corporal Ernest L. Edwards, of Sweet Briar, Virginia, who spoke on "The Recording of Bird Sounds." Corporal Edwards attended the University of Virginia and studied ornithology at Cornell, where he worked with Dr. A. A. Allen for two years in recording bird songs. He told of his many interesting experiences in recording and photographing in Wisconsn and the Adirondacks. He illustrated his talk with bird recordings. Corporal Edwards is now a Link-trainer at Bowman Field. At another meeting Dr. Arch Cole, of the University of Louisville, discussed "How Birds Sing." He explained the mechanism of birds, using large diagrams to illustrate his talk. His diagrams included the sound-producing mechanisms of the duck, the Merganser, the Emu, the Rook, the parrot, the Heath Hen, and the Whooping Crane.

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Our week-end trips have been carried out quite successfully. Our plans for the immediate future include hikes to Old Third Woods, Iroquois Park, Cave Hill Cemetery, George Rogers Clark Park, Cherokee Park, and Calvary Cemetery.

ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

Here are some new members since our last report: Mrs. Prue Wyatt McGaw, Providence; Mr. Thomas A. Semple, Providence; Mrs. Arch Cole, 3214 Crossbill Road, Louisville; Miss Anna Schulman, 2515 Valley Vista Road, Louisville; Miss Amelia Schulman, 2515 Valley Vista Road, Louisville; Mr. H. C. Mitchell, 4435 South Third, Louisville; Mrs. H. C. Mitchell, 4435 South Third, Louisville.

Our former secretary-treasurer, Virgil D. King, is now Chief Warrant Officer at Patterson Field, Ohio.

Pofessor John B. Loefer, of Berea College, who has been a member of the K. O. S. for some years, is now a lieutenant at the Army Medical Field Service School, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, and is attached to the Sanitary Corps.

Robert L. Witt, formerly of Morganfield, is now teaching at Freed-Hardeman College, Nashville, Tennessee.

We are glad to have the excellent article on bird feeding from Professor Stevens. He is secretary of the Inland Bird Banding Association, editor of INLAND BIRD BANDING NEWS, and associate professor of botany at North Dakota Agricultural College. The editor knows him personally through contacts at Wilson Club meetings and feels that our little magazine has been honored by his submitting this timely article.

Miss Helen Browning, our new Secretary-Treasurer, lives at 206 West Oak Street, Louisville. Members are urged to secure at least one new member this spring or give a subscription to the WARBLER as a present to someone interested in birds. In order to secure an unbroken file of the magazine and to keep our society from going to pieces in war time, send your dues at once to Miss Browning.

As you can see, the back of the cover contains the names of the officers for 1944. The editor, speaking for the whole K. O. S., welcomes the new official family and pledges cooperation in keeping our organization going in these troubled times.

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CHEERS FOR THE CHICKADEE

By SUE WYATT SEMPLE

Bitterly chill and dreary though the day
    May be, that little scrap of valor, called
    The chickadee, is not the least appalled
By winter, but he keeps his manners gay.
He is that black-capped fellow dressed in gray.
    When the thermometer goes down, enthralled
    His spirits go up, then he leaves pines scrawled
With stencilled marks on snow-trimmed cone and spray.

He pipes clear saucy notes that spell his name:
    Chick-a-dee-dee, chick-a-dee-dee! He wings
    About when February brings few faces.
Out of sound heart and merry throat the same
Warm, cheerful words of friendliness he sings:
    "Happy to meet you, Sir, in these cold places!"

SHORT NOTES

Sharp-shinned Hawk Catches Bobwhite on Wing—While I was hunting in a pasture during Christmas week, 1943, my dog flushed a covey of Bobwhites. Right in the midst of the flock a Sharp-shinned Hawk also flew up, pursued one of the birds and caught it in the air. I followed the hawk and shot it, finding a beheaded Bobwhite in its talons. There had not been time enough for the hawk to complete its meal.

—L. Y. LANCASTER, Bowling Green

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A Late Baltimore Oriole Record—On September 15, 1943, while I was camping alone at Mammoth Cave, I took the bus to Frozen Niagara Entrance. On my way back I saw and studied for several minutes a male Baltimore Oriole in the oak trees in front of one of the houses occupied by park workers near the Cave City entrance to the park. It was as active and vigorous as in spring, but at no time did it utter a sound.

—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green

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Banding Lincoln Sparrows—During the last ten days I have trapped and banded four Lincoln Sparrows. They were in excellent plumage, with a fine buffy band and stripes. I had never really seen a live Lincoln Sparrow before; so you can imagine how pleased I was. I have also banded several White-Throated and White-Crowned Sparrows.

—HARVEY B. LOVELL, Louisville (October 24, 1943)

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Late Nesting of the Mourning Dove in Livingston County—Two late nests of the Mourning Dove have been discovered in Livingston County, Kentucky. The first nest was found on the banks of the Tennessee River near Grand Rivers, on September 17, 1939. The young were still in the nest, although they were able to fly a short distance. This nest was about four feet high, in the forks of a red oak sapling. The second nest was discovered on September 5, 1942. It was located in a "witches'-broom" of a hackberry, nine feet high. The young were not more than three days old. This nest was near my father's home in the town of Grand Rivers. As the nestlings of the Mourning Dove remain in the nest about fourteen days, these would not have been ready to leave until about September 16. This species nests both early and late. In southern Michigan it has been found with eggs as early as March 29 and with young in the nest as late as October 21. My records show nine nests of the Mourning Dove with eggs or young before April 15 and two nests with young after October 15. Undoubtedly, both early and late nests of this bird are more common than most observers suspect. More complete surveys made in areas where it is still on the game list may reveal that a considerable number of nesting birds are shot every hunting season.

—WALTER P. NICKELL, Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

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A Visit to the Bernheim Reservation—A warm autumn sun shone brightly to set off in part the chill of a crisp November wind. Before us stretched the immense tract of rugged timber land interspersed with open fields and avenued with unnamed rocky creeks. Here and there an artificial pond raised its myriad ripples as the wind pursued its course across the surface. Overhead a flock of Starlings and a Cooper's Hawk waged their battle in the air. In square formation came the band of Starlings to attack en masse the hawk when this daring aviator ventured too close to the Starlings' air line. Underneath this canopy of war-fare in peace and serenity Cedar Waxwings sought berries high in the treetops, Juncoes flashed their white outer tail feathers in hurried flight, and Myrtle Warblers fed upon the last insects of the season. In a nearby pond a Pied-billed Grebe played hide and seek.

This was our first all-inclusive view of the Bernheim Reservation, located about thirty miles south of Louisville in Bullitt and Nelson Counties, near Shepherdsville. This 13,000-acre tract was granted by Isaac Bernheim in 1929 for the purpose of establishing a forest and game preserve, as well as a sanctuary for wild birds. Considerable improvement has been made in recent years. A series of dams have been built, creating three artificial ponds and thus affording a sanctuary to aquatic wild life. Surrounding these ponds newly planted groves of cedar and pine afford food and shelter for birds. It is hoped that large numbers of water birds will find a way station in these ponds while on their migrations. Wild turkeys and numerous deer were introduced and are to be found in the reservation. Here, too, will be located a museum of natural history.

Overlooking this haven of wild life stands a tower on the highest knob in the reservation. From here one may view nature in all of its beauty and variation. High above the treetops the sentinels of the air, the Black and Turkey Vultures patrolled a self-appointed area. Here and there along the paths leading downward to the little separate valleys a late blooming wild flower defied the approach of winter. A single closed gentian, already past its prime, blooming witch hazel, and a few belated asters completed the floral offering.

All day long the members of the Beckham Bird Club, under the leadership of Mr. Floyd Carpenter, made their way through the shadows of the huge oaks and other trees on that November 22, 1942. As the sun dipped its way lower into the western horizon, the "kuk-kuk-kuk" of the Pileated Woodpecker sounded through the stillness of the late afternoon. Not willing to give up its glory before retiring for the night, the sun tinted the fleecy clouds with a mother-of-pearl iridescence to bid a farewell and a welcome again to the weary bird enthusiasts.

A compilation of the birds seen that day is as follows: Cooper's Hawk, 3; Robin, 31; Carolina Chickadee, 5; Myrtle Warbler, 4; Carolina Wren, 1; Mockingbird, 2; Slate-colored Junco, 40; Cardinal, 1; Tufted Titmouse, 1; Cedar Waxwing, 10; Hermit Thrush, 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 4; Blue Jay, 5; Pied-billed Grebe, 1; Goldfinch, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Pileated Woodpecker, (only call notes), Mallard, 1; Black Duck, 1; Song Sparrow, 1; Flicker, 1; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Crow, 1; Meadowlark, 1; Turkey Vulture, 8; Black Vulture, 20.

Gas rationing has made trips of this kind a thing of the past. When the war is over, I am sure that many students of the out-of-doors will be eager to visit this interesting reservation.

—MRS. F. W. STAMM, Louisville.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded—1923 by B. C. Bacon, Dr. L. Otley Pindar, and Gordon Wilson.

Purpose—To encourage the study of birds and to sponsor measures for their protection.

Organ—THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, a quarterly magazine of ornithology.

Meetings—Spring, in Louisville, at the time of the Kentucky Education Association;

Fall, in some place of interest out in the state.

Dues—One dollar a year; residents of the state and others interested in ornithology are urged to become members.

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Vice-President—Major Victor K. Dodge, Lexington.

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Send notes and articles for publication to Dr. Gordon Wilson,

Editor of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, Bowling Green.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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Kentucky Warbler

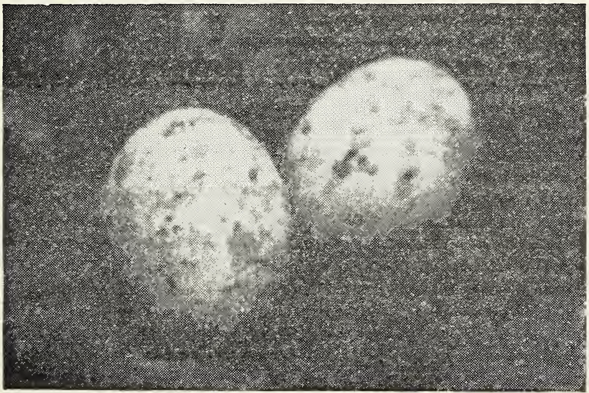
"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

Vol. XX SPRING, 1944 Vol. 2

THE SUMMER RANGE OF THE CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW IN KENTUCKY

By EVELYN J. SCHNEIDER, Louisvile

The Chuck-will's-widow, the southerly member of the Goatsucker family, much larger than its northern cousin, the Whip-poor-will, is far more often heard than seen. It spends most of the day in a secluded thicket resting lengthwise on a branch or directly on the ground, and, with its mottled plumage, it is practically invisible. The Chuck has been known to roost in the same spot day after day, sitting quite motionless on a mossy log or branch of a forest tree. At dusk, however, it begins the loud call from which its name is derived. It shares with other goatsuckers the habit of feeding on the wing, usually near the ground, catching in its wide mouth moths, bugs, beetles, and occasionally small birds. Since it seems to enjoy roosting in a dirt road, the reflection of the large red eyes can plainly be seen in the glare of a car's headlights as the bird, sitting like a stone, glares rigidly into the light. Its nesting haunt is usually in mixed oak and pine woods where, as a rule, there is little under-



Nest of CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW, near Science Hill, Pulaski County, Kentucky, May, 1942. Photograph by Roger W. Barbour.

MAY 16 '44

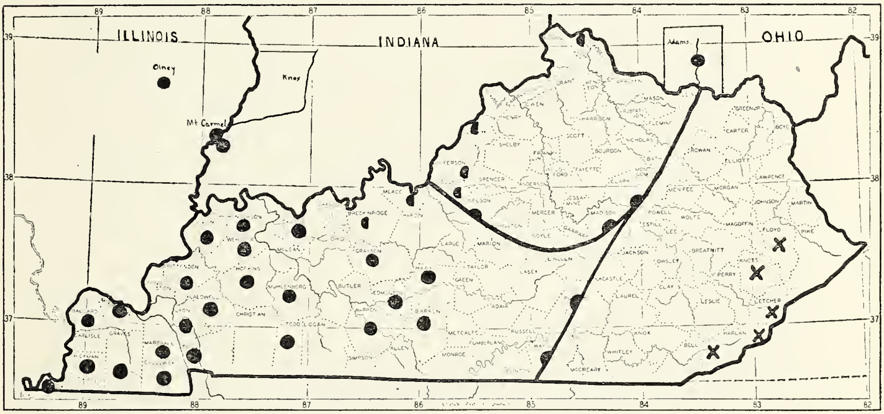
growth. It constructs no nest but places its two eggs on a carpet of dead leaves, and as the bird sits over them, it is so perfect an example of protective coloration that it cannot be seen. Once the bird is flushed, however, the creamy white eggs stand out boldly against the leaves. Audubon, as well as later writers, comments on the fact that should the Chuck discover that its eggs have been handled, it calls its mate, each bird takes an egg in its mouth, and they carry them to a new location, probably a long distance away.

Possibly because of a wider interest in bird study in the state, or probably because the range of habitat is spreading, a number of interesting records of the Chuck-will's widow for Kentucky have been published in recent years. Early writers considered it a more southern species. Alexander Wilson (1812) stated that "this solitary bird is rarely found to the north of the James River in Virginia on the sea-level, or of Nashville in the state of Tennessee in the interior . . . . In my journey south I first met with it between Richmond and Petersburg in Virginia, and also on the banks of the Cumberland in Tennessee." Audubon (1870) found that "the species is seldom observed beyond the limits of the Choctaw Nation in the State of Mississippi, or the Carolinas, on the shores of the Atlantic, and may with propriety be looked upon as the southern species of the U. S." According to the A. O. U. Checklist (1931), however, the breeding range of the Chuck-will's-widow is "the Lower Austral Zone from southern Missiouri, southern Illinois, southern Indiana, southeastern Kansas, and southern Maryland south to central Texas and the Gulf states."

The Illinois and Indiana records are in the southern parts of these states, where the territory has many characteristics of more southern areas. According to Ridgway (1889), "the Chuck-will's-widow is essentially a southern bird, the extreme northern limit of its range being the lower Wabash Valley, where, so far north as Mount Carmel it is, or at least was, not uncommon. The writer has heard its easily recognized notes as far north as the then (in 1865) heavily timbered Big Creek bottoms in Richland County, about three miles south of the town of Olney." Butler (1897) found the Chuck-will's-widow a "summer resident in the lower Wabash Valley, at least as far north as Knox County. In that region it is not uncommon . . . . Mr. William Brewster and Mr. Ridgway identified this species on the Indiana side of the Wabash, April 20, 1878." The northernmost breeding record seems to be that of Adams County, Ohio, where, according to Hicks (1935) "at least 25 or 30 pairs breed on a tract of about six square miles lying on either side of Ohio Brush Creek in Tiffin and Jefferson townships. The species was first discovered for the state on May 14, 1932." To the south, in Tennessee, Ganier (1933) reports that the species is a common summer resident in the western part, fairly common in the lowlands of the middle section, and a rare summer resident in the lowlands of the east.

Among the earliest published records of the Chuck-will's widow in Kentucky which I have found is that of Pindar (1925), who recorded the bird in Fulton County, in the extreme southwestern corner of the state, as found in his studies of 1884-89, 1890, and 1892-93; he considered the species a rare summer habitant. Gordon Wilson (1922) lists it as a fairly common summer resident in the Bowling Green area and (1923) as a common to abundant summer resident in Calloway County. Ridgway (1914) gave no reference to any Kentucky record, while Bent (1940) among his early dates of arrival lists Covington (April 17) and Bowling Green (April 25) in Kentucky. Beckham (1884) did not list the species for Nelson County. but Blincoe (1925) records one taken on June 27, 1915, and another seen on May 6, 1917. These are his only records, however, over a period of ten years.

In BREEDING BIRDS OF KENTUCKY—A COMPOSITE LIST, compiled by Gordon Wilson (1942), the Chuck-will's-widow is given as fairly common at Reelfoot Lake (Fulton County), Paducah (McCracken County), Kentucky Woodlands Wildlife Refuge (Lyon and Trigg Counties), Marion (Crittenden County), Bowling Green (Warren County), Mammoth Cave National Park (Edmonson, Hart, and Barren Counties), and Glasgow (Barren County). To these western and southern records for the state Wilson adds from his own records the following counties: Hickman, Graves, Ballard, Marshall, Calloway, Union, Caldwell, Webster, Henderson, Muhlenberg, Daviess, Todd, Grayson. Another record in this part of the state is that of James William Hancock, who gives the species as a common summer resident at Madisonville, Hopkins County. There are, then, 23 counties of western and southwestern Kentucky, from Fort Knox to the Mississippi River and to the Tennessee border in which the species is at least fairly common.



Map by EVELYN J. SCHNEIDER

Summer Range of the Chuck-will's-widow in Kentucky.

Round dots—fairly common; half dots—rare; crosses—not discovered in studies made.

Wilson states in a personal communication: "The Chuck-will's-widow is fairly common in limited habitats, usually either dense or open woods, with little or no forest-floor covering of bushes. In general I associate the species with hills in my territory, but this is not true elsewhere that I have found the bird. My earliest date for Bowling Green is April 14. Thus far I have never found a nest or eggs or young, but I have stumbled upon the adult birds in the woods in broad daylight. The species seems to migrate all at once, as I can tell no difference between the numbers early or late. In the Mammoth Cave National Park the Whip-poor-will is more numerous and more widely distributed. At Dr. Lancaster's cabins, at the mouth of Gasper River (Warren County), the Whip-poor-will is rarely heard, the Chuck-will's-widow regularly. After mid-summer the Chuck quiets down; I suppose it then migrates back south, but the Whip-poor-will remains well into September. August 3 is the latest date I can find for the Chuck."

Dr. A. L. Pickens, of Paducah, confirms Dr. Wilson's findings in a letter in which he says, "I have one date for the Chuck-will's-widow coming as early as April 27, in 1937, and one as late as May 3, in 1942. It seems to come about the same time the Whip-poor-wills and the Nighthawks do. Inquiry indicates that the Chuck-will's-widow is fairly common in this vicinity. Every case of Whip-poor-will resolves itself in Chuck-will's-widow when the notes are whistled. The Whip-poor-will is not absent, however, but I regard it as being chiefly a passing migrant with perhaps spotty local nestings. Have no autumn records for Chucks, but from more southerly records of my own and others, would judge it leaves rather early, even in some cases during August. It does not call in southward migration so freely as does the Whip-poor-will, and this adds to the difficulty."

Another record, nearer the central part of the state, is the specimen which A. L. Mirus, Louisville, has in his possession. It was shot down in Breckenridge County, in 1931, and brought to Mr. Mirus, who mounted it.

For eastern Kentucky the lists made by Barbour (1941), Horsey (1922), Murray (1938), Olsen (1938), Patten (1937), and Stone (1921) do not include the Chuck-will's-widow. Since the species is a bird of the lowlands, the terrain of these localities is apparently not suitable as its habitat. A record is given by Wetmore (1940) of a Chuck-will's-widow heard calling near Monticello, Wayne County, on June 7, 1938. A party from the United States Museum, carrying on field work through the state from April 15 to July 15 and September 15 to November 15 added this single individual to the existing records. In May, 1942, Roger W. Barbour discovered a nest near Science Hill, Pulaski County, and photographed it. (See cut).

Patten (1941) lists the Chuck as an uncommon summer resident in the Berea region. He states that it "breeds casually around the knob bases bordering the lowlands where the trees are Virginia pine and oaks of the Ohio shale and Waverly formations. At least four were heard calling near the base of West Pinnacle in the early morning (1:30 A. M.) of June 22, 1941." He gives the average date of arrival as May 10 in this region. Dr. John B. Loefer, of Berea, writes, "We came upon a female with an injured wing quite accidentally on May 25, 1940 . . . . It is a bird we never get on regular trips; hence the lack of adequate data."

Another record in the eastern part of the state is that reported by Major Victor K. Dodge, of Lexington. He states, "I am glad to report the taking of two eggs of the Chuck-will's-widow on May 17, 1942, by Mr. J. D. Figgins at Oil Springs, Clark County, Kentucky. Several of our members saw the bird, which made several trips to its nest during the day. The nest was in a thin black pine grove where the ground was covered deep with pine needles. The type of soil was slaty with practically no undergrowth."

On May 1, 1942, a large number of K. O. S. members attending the Kentucky Natural History Conference at Otter Creek Recreational Area, Meade County, heard the Chuck-will's-widow calling in competition with the Whip-poor-will. This was the first known record for the species in this area. Although we listened for the calls the following night, neither was heard. (Schneider, 1942).

The Chuck-will's-widow as reported by Burt Monroe, Jr., who very kindly sent me his father's records during his absence in the armed forces, include the collecting of a specimen, female, by Robert M. Mengel in Bullitt County, two miles south of Shepherdsville, on June 21, 1941, and an individual heard on May 6, 1942, by Burt Monroe, Burt Monroe, Jr., and others at Sleepy Hollow, in Oldham County. Leonard Brecher reports hearing a Chuck on June 27, 1942, in the region of Sleepy Hollow, about half a mile southeast of the lake, and another at Camp Shantituck, two miles north of Shepherdsville, Bullitt County, on May 1, 1943. On May 16, 1942, one was heard by his daughter, Ruth Brecher, in Jefferson County, about two miles north of Fern Creek.

To date no records of the Chuck-will's-widow have been found in the Cumberland Plateau or in the Bluegrass Region of the state, while in the Mississippian Plateau, the Western Coal Field, and the Mississippi Embayment the species has been found to be fairly common. Hence the eastern limit for the Chuck is apparently the western edge of the Cumberland Plateau. Pulaski and Wayne Counties lie at this edge. Except for the recent records in Oldham and Jefferson Counties, it would appear that the northern limit of the species in the state might be the wooded area in the region of the Knobs, as it has been for other forms of life. The Knob Region is a narrow belt extending in a rough semicircle around the Bluegrass, the eastern arc beginning at the Ohio River in Lewis County and extending southeastward, the western arc running northward along Salt River into Bullitt County to the Ohio. Oil Springs, Berea, Bardstown, and Shepherdsville, where the Chuck has been found, all lie at the edge of the Knob Region.

The record given for Covington in Bent's LIFE HISTORIES I have not been able to trace. The United States National Museum, which has on file all the pertinent correspondence between Mr. Bent and his contributors, has not been able to find any mention of this record. The individuals recorded in Oldham and Jefferson Counties may indicate an extended range of the species; perhaps the territory in which it was found has become peculiarly favorable as its habitat. Sleepy Hollow is on the South Fork of Harrods Creek above Black Bridge, where the stream is entrenched below the general level of the country. The hillsides are steep, too rugged for cultivation, and have been allowed to grow up in timber. Camp Shantituck is likewise in hilly, wooded country, surrounded by farm land, as is also the neighborhood in Jefferson County in which the Chuck was heard.

It is not likely that keen observers such as Audubon and Alexander Wilson would have missed the Chuck had it been here in their day, or that they would have confused its call with that of the Whip-poor-will. Also, as intense a bird student as C. W. Beckham would not have overlooked so vociferous a bird. It appears, then, that in the intervening years the Chuck-will's-widow has extended its range and is continuing to extend its range in Kentucky as it finds suitable habitat. Further records for the state will be extremely valuable.

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THE SHAKERS AND BIRDS

By GORDON WILSON

For many years one of my teachers, Miss Julia Neal, has studied the records of the South Union Shaker Colony, which originated in 1807 when missionaries from the East came into Logan County and began preaching. Some of the early converts gave land to the colony. From this nucleus grew the very distinctive agricultural community, which lasted until 1922. From the yearly journals kept by the colony Miss Neal has copied for me all the entries that have to do with birds. I do not know who was responsible for the earlier entries, but the ones from 1865 to the end of the journal examined by Miss Neal were the work of Hervey L. Eades, long a leader among the Shakers and a man of fine education. Other nature entries included accounts of blizzards, tornadoes, the daily weather observations, the blooming of fruit trees, and similar things. In a community dependent wholly upon agriculture it is interesting to see how the comings and goings of birds found a place in the serious journal of the community. I am listing the entries in their original spelling and punctuation, thanks to the painstaking study of Miss Neal.

"Sat. Mch. 25-1837 Martens made their appearance."

"Mon. Mch. 12, 1838—The turtle dove is heard."

"Mch. 19, 1857—Cranes are flying north—counted 168."

"Feb. 13, 1863—Wild Geese—Passed North—It is said this betokens a warm spell of wheater—but geese may be mistaken as well as men."

"Apr. 9, 1864—Mercury 52—Weather spring like—The Black Martins made their appearance 4 or 5 days since—they usually come in March—"

"Mch. 28, 1865—Martins arrive from the South."

Mch. 25, 1867—Martins arrived at their quarters on the poultry house."

"Mon. 4 Nov. 1867—**Cranes**—Several flocks of large Sandhill Cranes are passing over going to their Southern winter quarters—this betokens winter's approach—"

"Feb. 12, 1868—Robins made their appearance this morning."

"Aug. 17, 1868—Martins—Left—The majority of the thousands that have been circling around and roosting here for the past 3 weeks left on the 12th. Inst & the very last disappeared on Sat. the 13th. No more to be seen here until March 25th, 1869. Where they go & what they do the next 7 months I know not."

"Wed. 17, Mch. 1869. Spring birds—all on hand—Robins nest building. Blackbirds selecting their limbs among the evergreens."

"Aug. 26, 1870—**Martins**—The black martins did not all leave here for the South until the morning of the 29th Inst. At least two if not 3 weeks later than is common for them."

"Sat. 9, April, 1871. Whippoorwills—begin their night music on the 9th Inst."

"Dec. 31-1872. Robins appeared—must soon hide their heads again."

"Jan. Tues. 15, 1873—Still growing warmer. Robins that made their appearance New Years Day show themselves again."

"Feb. 18-1873. The Robins start up their spring song this beautiful pleasant morning."

"Mch. 18-1873—Martins are here—winter is gone."

"Nov. 12-1873—**Cranes**—winter is upon us, if cranes are true prophets—Their trumpet voices are heard in the air. They are bound for the coast of Florida."

"Feb. 14, 1874. **Blackbirds** appear—to fight for the pine trees."

"Jan. 21, 1875—**Robins** returned they think winter is over—Mer. 48 degrees."

"Wed. 3 March, 1875—Black birds returned yesterday."

"Wed. 29, Dec. 1875 **Robins** returned some days since & now I hear their morning Spring Songs in the evergreens—They will likely have all their music frozen in a few days."

"Feb.-12, 1876. Blackbirds returned—very early."

"Wed. Mar. 13, 1877—Of Birds—Robins returned middle of Feb. Black Birds about the 1st Inst."

"Th. Mch. 15, 1877. Cranes—The trumpet throated cranes now flying north to the lakes—indicating that the winter is past."

"Dec. 23, 1877. Cranes—a flock of 60 cranes made us look up to see them moving to the south—Hence we conclude that winter is coming—we look for it soon to follow."

There is something a bit sad in these records, partly because of the disappearance of the distinctive community life that South Union so long had, a community life based on what to most of us seems like fanaticism. Another sad note is that the Sandhill Cranes, so often recorded among such common things as Robins, Whippoorwills, Blackbirds, and Purple Martins, have disappeared quite as surely as the quaint, hard-working, pious Shakers themselves. These notes have an especial interest to me because South Union is only fourteen miles from Bowling Green, part of the Shaker holdings having been in the same county as my home and bird-study territory.

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NOTES ON THE BREEDING OF MOURNING DOVES IN KENTUCKY

By HARVEY B. LOVELL, University of Louisville

INTRODUCTION. Why has the Mourning Dove (**Zenaidura macroura**) continued to thrive, whereas the Passenger Pigeon has disappeared under the persecution of man? There is, of course, no simple answer, but among the reasons are undoubtedly its long nesting season and its ability to nest in a great variety of places. It thrives in thickly settled areas such as Louisville, a metropolitan area of over half a million population, where it is nesting in increasing numbers. It nests in large trees, in small trees, in bushes, and even in vines. It breeds on the ground (Gordon Wilson found a nest on a bluff overlooking Barren River). It even breeds underground, writes A. F. Ganier, who found a nest near Bowling Green, Kentucky, in a sink hole three feet below the level of the surrounding field. Mr. Ganier further states that in Nashville, Tennessee, Doves nest on the posts of rail fences grown about with bushes. In Louisville a nest was found by Mabel Slack in a graveyard on a stone Bible in the hands of an angel, surely an appropriate place for a harbinger of peace.

NEST ON A CLIFF. During the summer of 1943 I found a Mourning Dove's nest on a rock ledge along the face of an old quarry. The nest was about twelve feet from the ground and partly shaded both by a small tree and by an overhang of the cliff. There is no mention of such a nesting habitat in Bent's LIFE HISTORIES, nor do any Kentucky ornithologists with whom I have communicated recall a nest in a similar location. According to Ganier, in Tennessee, Rock Doves breed on cliffs, but he has no record of Mourning Doves doing so. In Pearson's BIRDS OF AMERICA there is a mention of cliffs as nesting sites for this species, and I presume that an exhaustive search of literature would uncover other records. Gordon Wilson reports that Doves have nested on the same window ledge of one of the college buildings of Bowling Green in both 1943 and 1944, a location not unlike a cliff.

THE USE OF OTHER BIRDS' NESTS. The nest of the Mourning Dove is so poorly constructed that it must have a fairly substantial support. That is probably why it sometimes makes use of the abandoned nests of several of our more efficient builders. During the summer of 1943 I had an opportunity to observe such a nest.

A Robin had built its nest in an exposed crotch in a pear tree which grew on the edge of our driveway. Its eggs were destroyed about April 30, presumably by English Sparrows, as several were seen around and even on the edge of the nest that day. On May 8 a Mourning Dove was discovered using the nest. Investigation revealed that she had built her raft of sticks over the cavity of the Robin's nest and had already laid her quota of two eggs. The nestlings hatched on May 22. A large piece of shell was still in the nest when it was examined.

We had planned to study the rate of growth of the nestlings. On May 23, when they were one day old, they weighed 13.2 and 13.3 grams. On May 24 they had increased their weights one third, to 20.7 and 21.5 grams. A heavy thundershower coming up suddenly drenched the nest and its occupants and apparently prevented the return of the adult. When, an hour after dark, no parent had returned, we took the cold, wet nestlings into the house, made a nest of cotton, and warmed them under an electric light all night. The next morning they were in fine shape. We returned them to the nest, and within a few minutes a parent was back and brooding them. Unfortunately some predator had destroyed the nestlings the next day. The nest was too much exposed for safety, because of the dying of the limb on which it was situated.

I can find no published records of Mourning Doves' using other birds' nests in Kentucky, nor do any of the K. O. S. members in Louisville recall having seen one. Gordon Wilson found one near his house in mid-September several years ago which was built on an abandoned Robin's nest and still had the eggs unhatched. In Bent's LIFE HISTORIES it is stated that old nests of Robins, Mockingbirds, and Brown Thrashers are often used, and a Mourning Dove using a hawk's nest is figured. Roads (1931) and Hoffman (1919) also have reported Doves' use of old Robins' nests.

Mr. Ganier writes that Doves often use Brown Thrashers' and Mockingbirds' nests in Tennessee. Finally, McClure in a recent bulletin, "Ecology and Management of the Mourning Dove," states that Robins' nests are so frequently used in Iowa that they are a distinct asset to Dove management. Doves occasionally take newly completed nests before the Robins have had a chance to use them. McClure's paper contains a list of nine species of birds whose nests are used by Doves.

LATE NESTING RECORDS. The Mourning Dove has a very long nesting season, which is prolonged well into September and occasionally into October. Nickell (1944, p. 11) reports two September nests from Livingston County, Kentucky, and F. L. Dunn discovered a nest with eggs on September 26, 1941, at Dawson Springs. Even if hatching had occurred the next day, the nest would have been occupied until October 10, since the length of time in the nest averages fourteen days. McClure finds that there is a very extensive September nesting in Cass County, Iowa, and lists twenty-five nests which were still in use in October.

During the past summer I found four nests in Jefferson County which were definitely or probably September nests. A nest in a plum tree was discovered on August 18, containing two young. It was still occupied on August 31 at 5:00 P. M. but vacant at 8:00 the next morning, September 1. A second nest, with two eggs, was located in a peach tree 120 feet away. The eggs were destroyed on August 27. Adding fourteen days, we find that this nest would have been occupied until at least September 9. The Doves had built in a very exposed place on a nearly horizontal limb about twelve feet from the ground. A third nest, also containing two eggs, was discovered on Towhead Island by the members of the Beckham Bird Club on their weekly field trip, August 15, 1943. It was in a crotch of a nearly horizontal limb that leaned over the Ohio River. At the urgent request of the Coast Guard we did not again visit the island. It seems probable, however, that this nest was used into the first week of September.

I am indebted to Dr. P. A. Davies for showing me the latest nest. When I visited it on September 3, the two young weighed 28 and 28.1 grams. From this and the extent of the feather development, it seemed certain that the young were at least three days old, that is, that they had hatched on August 31. Their eyes were just beginning to open. The nest was twelve feet up in the main crotch of a small elm tree in a cow pasture.

Although the nest was visited daily, the nestlings were handled on only one occasion, September 7, when they were weighed, measured, and banded. Their weights of 50 and 50.3 grams indicated that they were about half grown. The young birds showed signs of fear and tried to escape when placed on the ground. The weighing of one was interrupted by the noisy approach of a bull, which caused me to retreat to the vicinity of a stout tree. After the interruption I returned to the scales, only to find them empty. It took me ten minutes to find the young Dove, so well hidden was it in the weeds only eight feet away.

Continued visits showed the nestlings still in the nest on September 13 at 6:30 P. M., but they were gone on September 14 at 4:40 P. M. They had apparently been in the nest fourteen days. As it is probable that young Doves need the care and feeding of their parents for at least five days after leaving the nest, this brood was still dependent upon their parents for three days after the hunting season began on September 16.

NOTES ON DEVELOPMENT OF NESTLINGS. For the first few days the nestlings are naked except for a covering of gray nestling down. When picked up, they closed their feet automatically upon the sticks in their nest, but otherwise they showed no sign of fear. They opened their eyes on the third day, but it was not until the seventh day that any great advance in their mental development was noted. They were more alert and paid more attention to their surroundings. On the eighth day the larger one, in the plum tree nest mentioned above, flew out of the nest when I climbed up to it and fluttered to the ground, where it crouched motionless in the weeds. When placed on the short grass of the lawn, it ran around fluttering its wings. However, when replaced in its nest, it crouched down and made no further attempt to escape. Since partly grown birds are apt to leave their nest too soon if disturbed after their fear instinct develops, we observed all nests from a distance through field glasses after the eighth day. Doves, therefore, should be banded on either the seventh or the eighth day. At that time they are about half grown and weigh from 48 to 60 grams. Their wing primaries are 50 to 58 mm. long and about two-thirds unsheathed, their tail feathers 30 to 35 mm. long and about half unsheathed. An adult that was trapped weighed 112.5 grams.

SUMMARY. Mourning Doves nest in a great variety of sites. A nest on a cliff is described. Another one built over an abandoned Robin's nest is discussed. Doves breed so frequently in late August and early September that the hunting season should not begin before September 16 or 20. The fear reaction appears on the seventh or eighth day, after which nestlings should not be handled or disturbed or they will leave their nest too soon. The appearance of the fear reaction is delayed until the wing feathers unsheath sufficiently to allow the nestlings to glide to the ground safely.

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ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

Mr. W. L. McAtee, of the Fish and Wildlife Service, is preparing a book on vernacular bird names and would like to receive contributions from our society. If our members will send the editor a list of vernacular names, a composite list will be sent to Mr. McAtee, representing the whole K. O. S. Mr. McAtee also asked for a copy of Mr. Gerald Baker's article on the Wild Turkey to be abstracted for Game Management Abstracts.

Because of the congestion of travel, the officers decided not to hold a meeting of the K. O. S. at Lexington on April 13 and 14, 1944, when the Kentucky Education Association met for brief sessions.

Both Bobby Mengel and Tommy Smith, two of our younger and very active members, are in the armed forces overseas.

Burt Monroe, now stationed near Dyersburg, Tennessee, had a two weeks' vacation the latter part of March and reported a number of interesting water birds on the Ohio, including the Gadwall, the Horned Grebe, and the Loon.

The AUK is now indexing the KENTUCKY WARBLER in the section of the magazine devoted to current literature. In their April, 1944, issue there are twenty-one pages devoted to articles on birds, containing about 560 references.

Mr. Walter P. Nickell, whose notes on the late nesting of the Mourning Dove appeared in the Short Notes section of last issue, is a native Kentuckian, having been reared at Grand Rivers, "between the rivers," in Livingston County. He is the ornithologist for the Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. In November, 1943, he was in Louisville and appeared before the Beckham Bird Club, showing many kodachrome slides on bird life. His wide range of knowledge of Kentucky birds should make him a regular contributor to our magazine.

With this issue is being sent a double-map feature, showing the Mississippi Flyway and the new Kentucky Reservoir. This excellent aid to our study of birds is a contribution of our Mr. A. F. Ganier from reprints made from the March, 1944, issue of THE MIGRANT.

* * * * * *

IDYLL OF SPRING

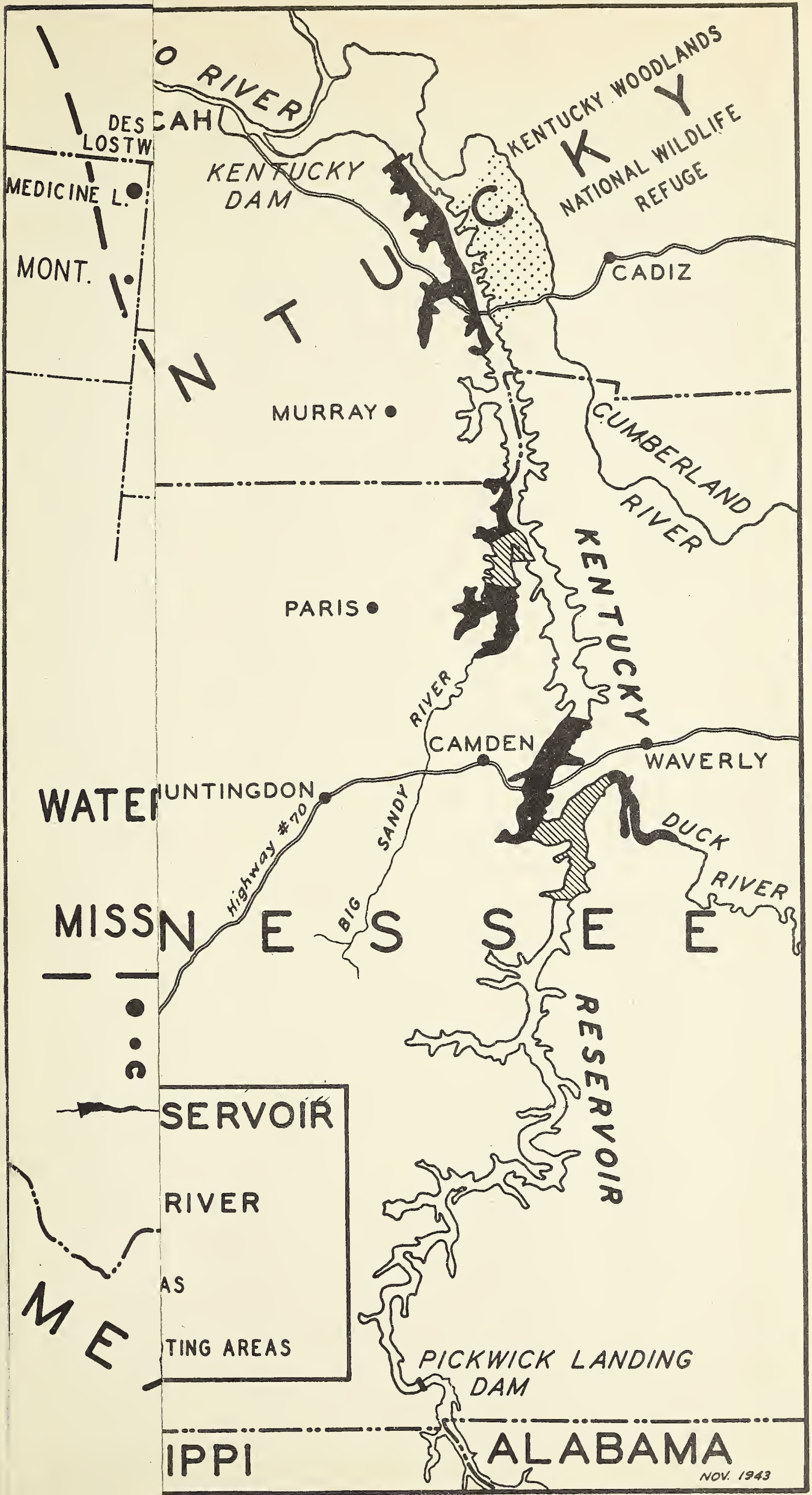
By SUE WYATT SEMPLE

O creature heavenly in color! Sweet
And musical your song: "Tru-al-ly, tru-
Al-ly." You set my spirits dancing, greet
Me with bird-lure when you make your debut.
O little sweetheart of the South, your role
A warbled note from somewhere overhead.
On singing wires I see an aureole
Of Blue, a throat and breast of rusty red.
Come closer, little minstrel, make yourself
At home in my young apple orchard; here
I've built a special house for you, dear elf—
Personified in bird—my heart to cheer.
I welcome your gay glint of azure wing,
Bewitching Bluebird, guest of magic spring!

* * * * * *

SHORT NOTES

A TAME BROWN THRASHER—The return of the spring migrants reminds me again of an unforgettable circumstance. It was a warm day, April 8, 1938, when I found an adult Brown Thrasher in my banding trap. Taking trap and all to the back porch and then removing the bird, I walked indoors. Thrashers, shy and timid by nature, usually remain quiet when handled. Lying there on its back in my left hand, waiting patiently for me to place a band on him, he seemed to have lost all shyness and suddenly burst forth in his sweet, clear, stirring song. Such a reward was not expected. This behavior seemed unusual and was such a contrast to the Cardinal's fighting habits. A red-letter day for me! I may never have this experience again. However, some day I hope to meet this songster, and when I do, there will be fond memories when I see No. 36-301802. —MRS. F. W. STAMM, Louisville.



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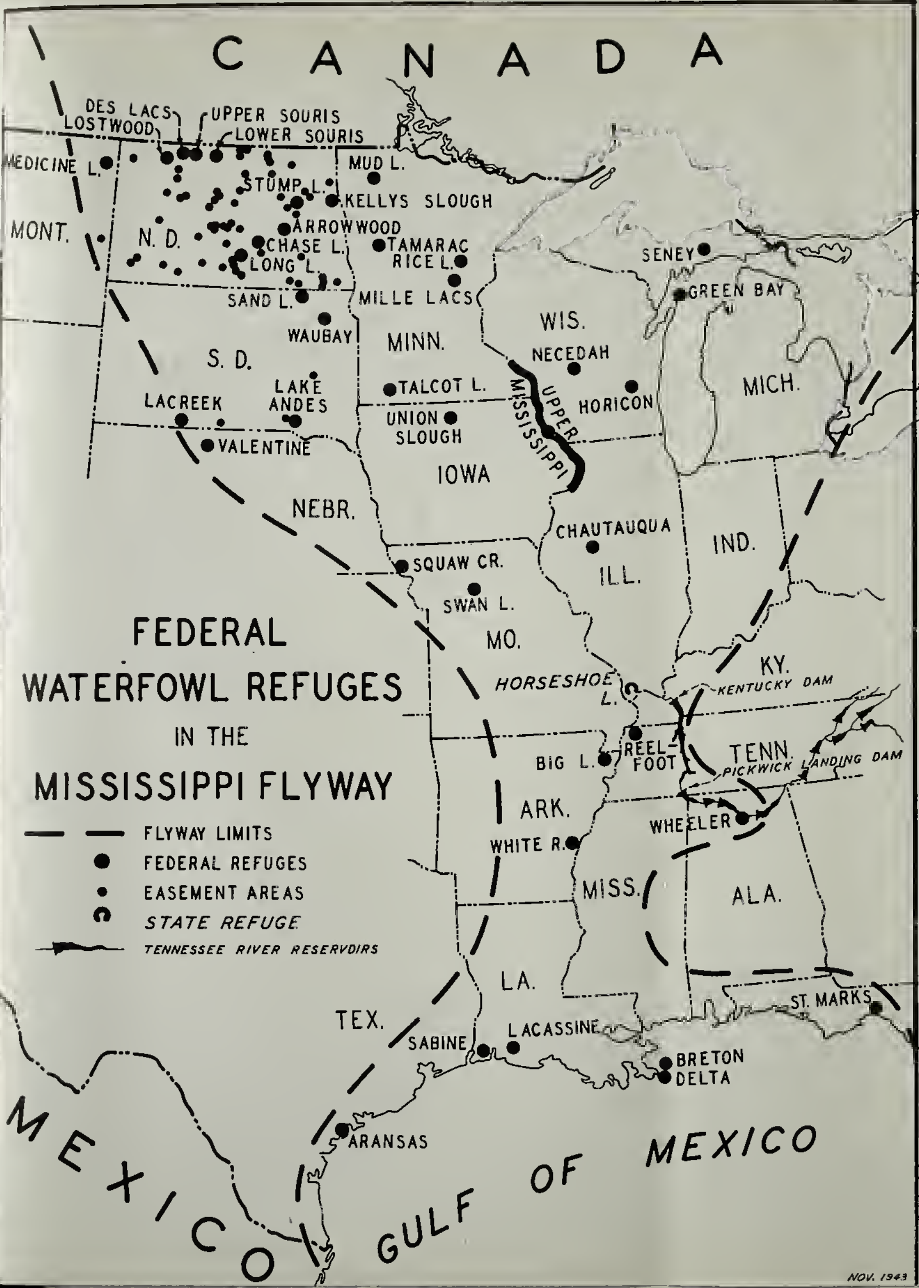
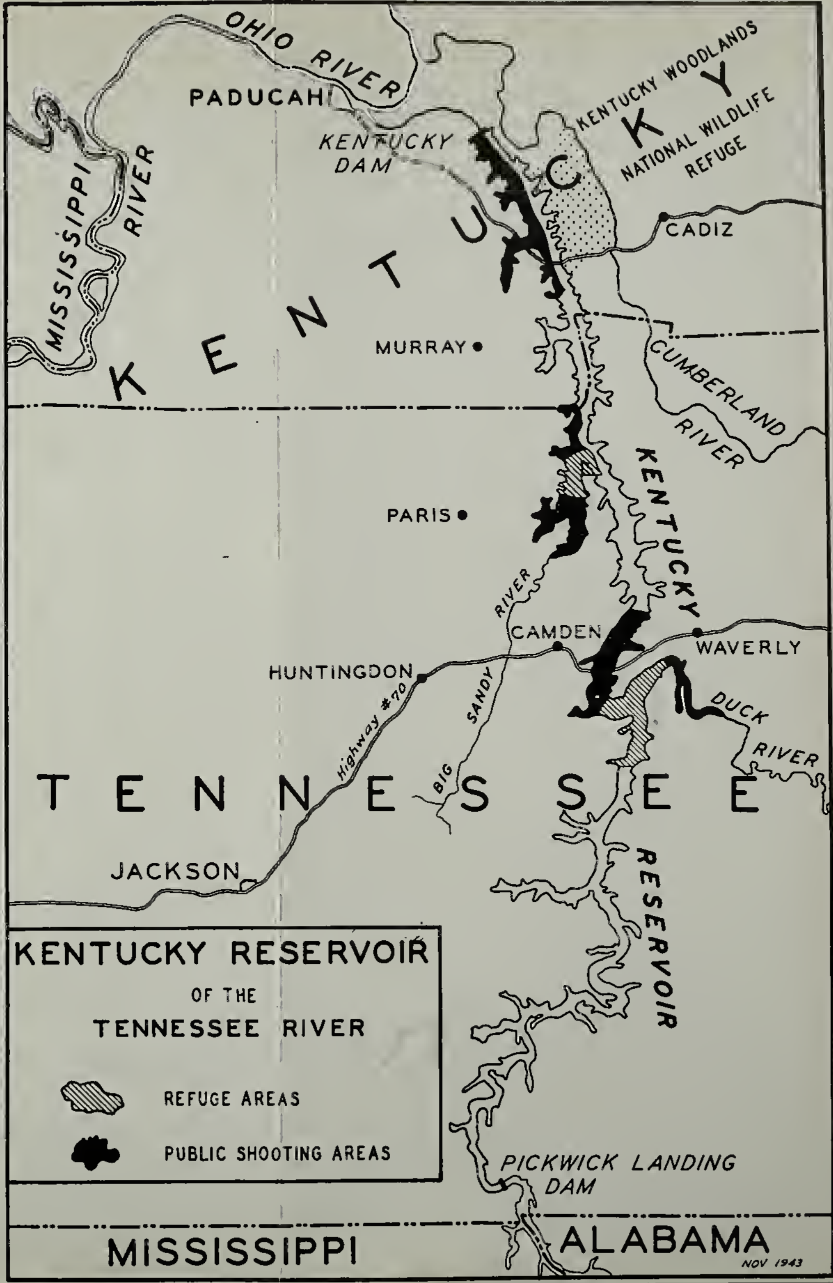


FEDERAL WATERFOWL REFUGES IN THE MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY



KENTUCKY RESERVOIR OF THE TENNESSEE RIVER

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded—1923 by B. C. Bacon, Dr. L. Otley Pindar, and Gordon Wilson.

Purpose—To encourage the study of birds and to sponsor measures for their protection.

Organ—THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, a quarterly magazine of ornithology.

Meetings—Spring, in Louisville, at the time of the Kentucky Education Association;

Fall, in some place of interest out in the state.

Dues—One dollar a year; residents of the state and others interested in ornithology are urged to become members.

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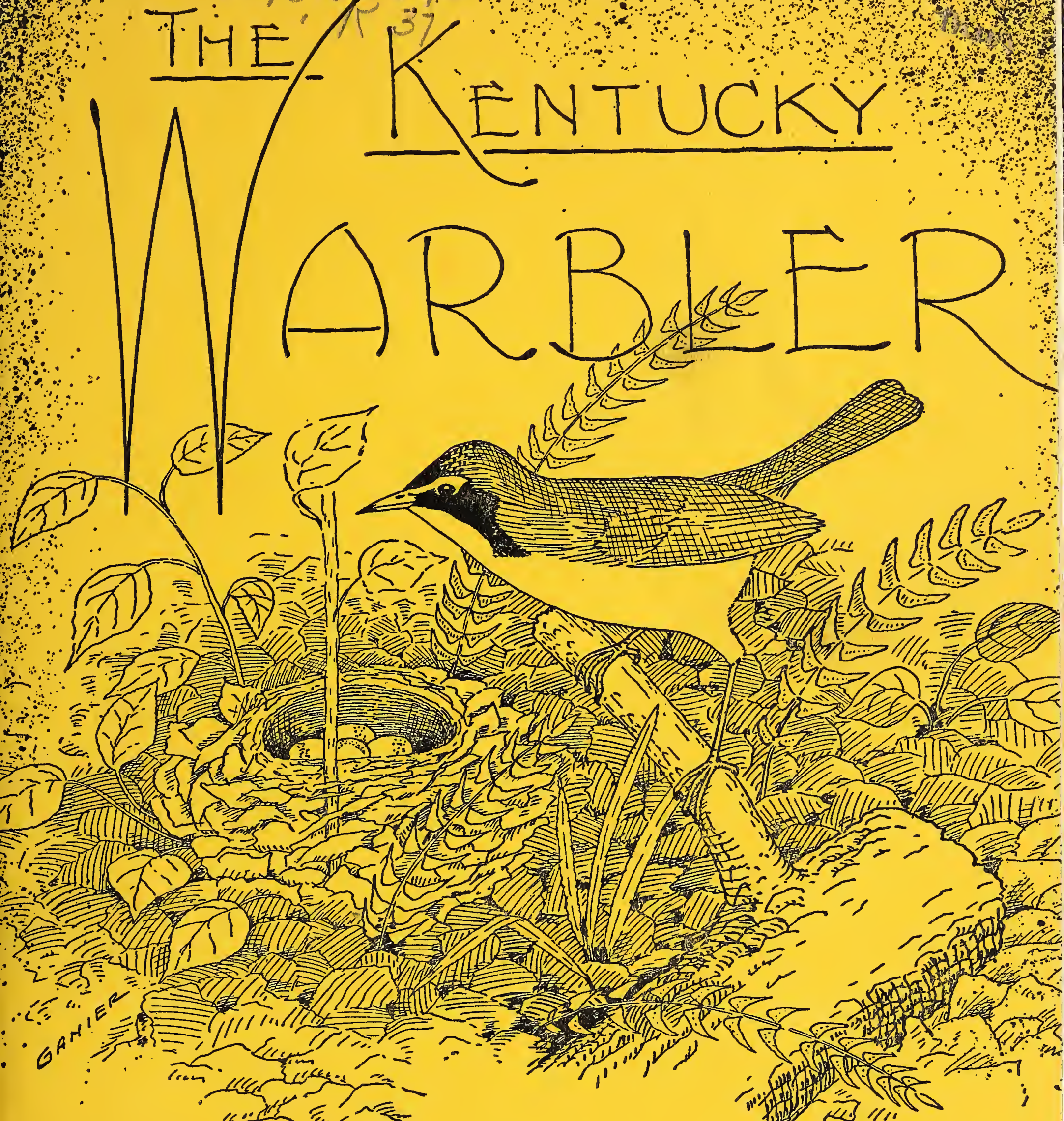

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Vol. 20
No. 3

. . . The . . .
Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

VOL. XX SUMMER, 1944 NO. 3

GEOGRAPHICAL ALTERATIONS IN THE HABITATS OF BIRDS

By F. D. FIGGINS, University of Kentucky

Researches in connection with Kentucky birds have been doubly useful through their having contributed to the evidence that avian populations make distinct changes in their habitats and that such alterations have, in some instances, attained large geographical proportions. Further, these changes are not less apparent in resident species than in summer visitors. After citing instances of such movements reference will be made to a local example in which the process is observable. Studies of the above character reveal past alterations in avian populations as well as in modern. They assume exceptional proportions when the birds of circumscribed regions are under consideration.

When pioneers reached western Pennsylvania and Ohio and Kentucky, early in the nineteenth century and late in the eighteenth century, they found the Greater Prairie Chicken, then known as the Pinnated Grouse, very numerous. These birds preferred the "Barrens" and areas that were cleared of timber, but since cover was essential for their protection against predators, their range did not extend over the treeless, short-grass prairies of the West. However, as Bison disappeared and open cattle ranges contracted westward, trees and shrubbery advanced at like rate, as did agricultural activities. Cereals were the major crops, and as it was customary to allow corn fodder to stand in the fields, birds were insured an abundance of food and adequate protection. Through these means the Greater Prairie Chicken ultimately became established as far west as the high prairies adjacent to the foothills of central Colorado as well as in eastern Wyoming, the Dakotas, and southern Saskatchewan. When cottonwoods, hackberries, thickets of wild plum, drawf wild cherry, and blue grapes had established themselves about the streams of eastern Colorado, the Prairie Sharp-tailed Grouse appeared, along with such eastern birds as the Brown Thrasher, the Catbird, the Wood Thrush, the Ovenbird, the Blue Jay, the Baltimore Oriole, the Orchard Oriole, and many others. Many types of weeds followed the breaking of the prairie sod, and dense growths of sunflowers covered uncultivated fields. Into such environments came many finches, among them the Dickcissel.

Prior to 1870 the Dickcissel was a common summer resident east of the Allegheny Mountains, especially in northern Virginia and in Maryland. By 1872 it had disappeared from the entire region. Casual visitors were taken near Jefferson, Frederick County, Maryland, in

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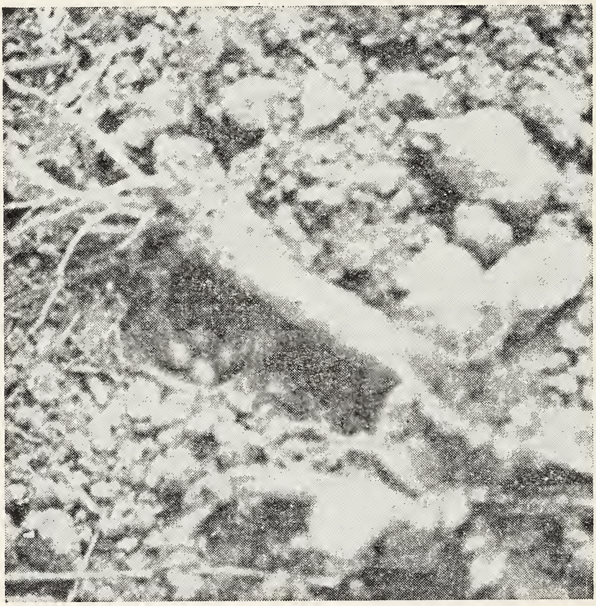
August, 1889, and others were observed in Montgomery County, Maryland, about 1914, but nowhere did these birds reestablish themselves east of the mountains. In the meantime there had developed a westward trend in their breeding range, and by 1911 a few birds had reached the vicinity of the Kansas-Colorado boundary. In less than ten years they were breeding about the high prairies of central Colorado, two hundred miles to the west.



NEST OF PRAIRIE HORNED LARK
In Woodford County, Photograph by V. K. Dodge

In the spring of 1937 Major Victor K. Dodge called the writer's attention to Prairie Horned Larks on River Farm, in southern Woodford County, Kentucky, stating that the birds had been present during the previous summer and winter. Major Dodge also expressed the intention of making an effort to discover the nest. It was therefore not surprising when he announced the finding of it in early May of that year. When able to fly, the young birds made frequent visits to a nearby source of water, accompanied by their parents, and shortly thereafter they were joined by a second brood of young and a pair of adults.

With a view to affording the birds every opportunity to establish themselves permanently, Major Dodge set aside about fifteen acres of bluegrass pasture, from which all but a few head of young cattle were excluded. The water supply was greatly enlarged, and liberal use of cornstalks was made as a means through which the birds might conceal themselves. Not only were the birds prompt in accepting these accomodations, but they became very tame.

In 1938 some of the birds extended their range to other pastures on River Farm, and by 1941 a second flock had developed. In early May of 1943 the writer observed a pair of these birds at a distance of about three miles from River Farm, and Major Dodge enjoys the privilege of having them on display at all seasons. The summer visitor to the preserve on River Farm will see many other birds about the clear water of the artificial lake during the hour he may have to await the return of the Prairie Horned Larks.

In addition to the above evidence that these birds have established permanent residence in Kntucky, the writer is obliged to others for additional records, among them Dr. Harvey B. Lovell, of the University of Louisville. Dr. Lovell refers to finding a nest containing three eggs, in Louisville, Jefferson County, on April 4, 1943. Those who are familiar with the habits of Prairie Horned Larks are likely to conclude that the doctor plays golf, since it is of common occurrence for these birds to select golf courses as nesting places. In NOTES ON THE BIRDS OF KENTUCKY Dr. Alexander Wetmore refers to a specimen's being taken near Monticello, Wayne County, on June 17, 1938, and Mr. John Patten, in his master's thesis at the University of Kentucky, records it near Berea, Madison County, on July 17, 1940. Through THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, Volume XVI, we learn that Mr. Virgil King discovered a nest in Grant County, on June 11, 1940. Following his training period of 1940, Major Joseph F. Spears reported the Prairie Horned Lark as abundant about the practice ranges at Fort Knox, in Hardin and Bullitt Counties, where the birds paid the scantest attention to noisy tanks and artillery fire.

Prairie Horned Larks nest as early as the latter part of March, and by patient observations of the birds the site is sometimes located. As a rule, however, it is discovered through flushing the birds directly from the nests. The nests are thick-walled, composed entirely of fine grasses, and located in depressions of sufficient depth to insure their rims being on a level with the surface of the ground. Deep cattle tracks beside low objects, such as a weed or prickly pear cactus, are preferred. The finely-spotted eggs and the markings of the young are of a character that do not lend themselves as aids in the finding of the nests. Add weathered cornstalks to this ensemble, and we have a satisfactory explanation of the abundance of Prairie Horned Larks.

As the number of birds have increased on River Farm and vicinity, and as they have been observed there during consecutive summers since Major Dodge discovered the first nest, in May, 1937, it appears reasonable to assume that they are established, but whether they are representative of a late extension of their range or reoccupancy of the state is not entirely established. Neither Audubon nor Wilson mentions Horned Larks in connection with Kentucky. They credit these birds to more northern states and specify the Far North as the breeding habitat. Both authors were, of course, discussing the Northern Horned Lark, **alpestris,** for the reason that the Prairie Horned Lark, **praticola,** was not described until 1884. The writer has discovered nothing that is suggestive of its breeding in Kentucky prior to modern times. North of the Ohio River it appeared, yes, but not south.

In the West, where **praticola** is the most abundant species of the prairies, it sometimes perches on fence posts and, occasionally, on the backs of cattle, but never does it resort to trees or bushes. Alighting in weeds and tall grasses is equally foreign to its habits, and there appears small prospect that it formerly occupied the "Barrens" of the south-central part of Kentucky. It would, therefore, seem improbable that it nested in Kentucky prior to cultivation of the land and the introduction of bluegrass.

There is a wealth of evidence through which to prove that many birds abandon large regions because of man's activities. Agriculture has not been beneficial to all species of birds, and studies of these factors are indispensable, if we are to gain useful conceptions of avian populations of the past as well as of the present. This is most important when we are dealing with the birds of circumscribed regions.

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OBSERVATIONS ON THE NESTING OF A HUMMINGBIRD

By DANIEL H. CANNON

In the summer of 1943 I studied the nest of a Ruby-throated Hummingbird in Silver Hills, a residential suburb of New Albany, Indiana. The nest was located in a silver maple, eight feet and three inches from the ground, directly over a much traveled sidewalk and about seven feet from a busy street, in the yard of Mrs. Margaret Wentzell. There are no running streams within a half mile, and the water supply seems to have been a birdbath in a neighboring yard. Flowers of the more common cultivated varieties were plentiful. It is not known when the bird first began to build the nest, but it was complete on July 5, when the first egg was laid. The second followed the next day.

The nest was astride a small, down-sloping branch, 1.8 cm. in diameter, and located in a small crotch. It was constructed of bud scales, lichen, moss, plant-down, and spider webs. The main body of the nest was of bud scales, fastened together with web; and between these was fastened and woven the moss. This was well covered with webbing, and pale green and gray lichens were stuck to the outside. This made the nest blend perfectly with the limb. The lining was of plant down, to which the seeds remained attached. The nest was built entirely by the female, the male never appearing while we were watching. The female also raised and fed the young unassisted.

The incubation period was twelve days, the young hatching on July 18, 1943. They were very tiny (about 1 cm. long) and almost naked. They grew rapidly and after ten days were well above the rim of the nest. By this time the birds were well feathered. In color they were a dirty gray below and dark brown above. The flight feathers were also developing, but were yet not mature. The throat had definite yellow-tan streaks running toward the breast.

During the incubation period the mother seemed to spend more time away from the nest than on it. Now, with the birds hatched, she was often absent for intervals lasting over an hour. In feeding, the mother would approach the nest with some care. Hovering and occasionally perching on the rim of the nest, she would thrust her beak far down the throats of the little ones and pump food from her throat into their stomachs.

The nest was very public, and many people visited it each day. During these times the mother could often be found perched on a nearby limb, watching. As soon as the observers left, she would fly down and feed her brood. I spent over an hour photographing the young, and never once did the female come near or offer to attack, although I was within two inches of the nest, and she was perched on a twig fifteen or twenty feet above me. She did fly restlessly from one twig to another for some time. I finished my work and was scarcely thirty feet away before she was at the nest, feeding the young.

The first bird left the nest late in the afternoon of August 1. He perched on the rim of the nest for a few minutes and then flew directly away. The second remained in the nest until August 5, when it left the nest and perched on the branch just below the nest. During the night there was a storm; in the morning the bird was found above the nest. It had not apparently reentered the nest. It, too, flew away about noon on the morning of August 4. They have not been seen since then.

In preparing this life history of the Ruby-throated Hummingbird we have checked our observations with those of Winsor M. Tyler in Bent's LIFE HISTORIES (Bulletin 176, Smithsonian Instution, 1940). The position of the nest on a down-sloping limb is quite typical. The presence of streams and suitable flowers are the two chief factors in determining the selection of a nesting site. The latter factor seems to be the important one in the present case. Tyler reports that the nest period is very variable (fourteen to twenty-eight days), which is probably due to the rate of feeding. The present brood remained in the nest only thirteen and fifteen days, an unusually short period, indicating warm weather and favorable food supply. We think it is especially noteworthy that the nest was a success in so open a location.

* * * * * *

TO AN INDIGO BUNTING

By SUE WYATT SEMPLE

Wee bird, you wear a suit of velvet blue,
    Much bluer than the summer skies, which pale
When you flit your rich plumage into view
    And make your concert stage an old fence rail.
Among the brambles, weeds, and bushy tangles
    You dodge about, or tilt on swaying reeds;
Near minnow pools, where the Kingfisher angles,
    You search for caterpillars, bugs, and seeds.

With short, erratic flights you mount a birch—
    Still higher, higher—singing rapidly,
You reach your favorite, conspicuous perch
    And pour forth spritely notes in ecstasy.
O little flash of feathered indigo,
    Teach me to warble in this world of woe!

* * * * * *

SHORT NOTES

A WINTER PALM WARBLER—On February 16, 1944, I saw a Western Palm Warbler in my back yard. The bird was flitting back and forth against the sunny side of the house, always alighting on or near the gutter. I opened the window and for a moment thought it was coming indoors. I hurried downstairs, only to find the bird perched on an Arbor Vitae only two feet from the porch. The constant wagging of the tail was sufficient identification, but the bright yellow under-tail coverts were also very evident. Since then I have seen the bird on two other occasions, the last one being April 4. As far as I know, this is the first record of a winter Palm Warbler in this vicinity. I have consulted the records of Burt Monroe and Mabel Slack. Mrs. Dorothy M. Hobson reported two Palm Warblers on a recent Christmas Census at Bloomingdale, Indiana. The average date of the arrival of the Palm is the latter part of April. Although the Western Palm and the Yellow Palm have entirely different breeding ranges, they are often found together in winter and in the migration. —Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Louisville.

A CAPTIVE COMMON LOON—On Sunday afternoon, March 26, 1944, a strange creature was seen stalking through the alfalfa near the home of the caretaker of the chicken house. This unusual bird attracted the attention of several men, who gave chase. It put up a good fight but was captured and placed in a small covered pen, inside the chicken house. Food of various kinds was offered, but it showed a definite preference for corn. After three days it was taken out of the covered pen, its wings clipped, and it was allowed the run of a large pond.

About this time I was informed of this strange-looking "duck" and hurriedly drove over to the pond. I immediately recognized my first female Common Loon. She was in winter plumage, a wild but handsome bird. She moved about on the water with all the arrogance of a great battleship, with high head and long, straight, pointed bill. My interest was stirred to the extent that much of my spare time was spent in observing this rare wild bird. Visits were made twice daily, at the noon hour and after 4:00 P. M. On two occasions visits were made after dark.

The bird had a way of raising herself out of the water, flourishing and flapping her wings, and displaying her beautiful white breast, giving utterance meanwhile to a weird and uncanny call. Her keen eyes were ever alert. On several occasions I caught the bird out of the pond on the bank but never more than a few inches from the water's edge. If I ventured too near, she at once slid into the water. What impressed me more was the same position she seemed to acquire while resting on land, with head pointing up the bank, body straight, tail probably not more than four or five inches from the water. In the water the bird was well adjusted, but was ill at ease on land.

Another thing that is unforgettable was that lonesome little cry; at other times it was mournful and uncanny. The bird appeared to be in dire distress, giving out a lonesome wail, probably calling for her mate.

Food placed on the bank daily was untouched, for she seemed to be getting her food from the water. The night visits found the bird on land, near the water.

While in captivity the Loon laid an egg, which was broken. The shell was dark olive-gray, slightly spotted with black.

On the night of April 10 this pond did one of the queer things that occur in this cavernous country: the bottom of the pond dropped out, all the water disappeared during the night and the next morning we found my "lonesome" Loon dead, exhausted with wings and body covered with mud.

—Dr. Cynthia C. Counce, Western State Hospital, Hopkinsville.

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LATE WINTER BIRDS AT AUDUBON STATE PARK—On March 2 and 3, 1944, I visited the Audubon State Park and the Audubon Museum, near Henderson, Kentucky. At the entrance a Mockingbird had established territory in a clump of dwarf sumac. It was eating the berries, and whenever other birds came near, it drove them away vigorously. A second Mockingbird was similarly established in another stand of sumac about two hundred yards to the right. Back of the museum there are some fine old beeches. Other winter plant foods noted include sycamore, dogwood, coralberry, tulip tree, honey locust, and sweet gum. There are two artificial lakes in the park on which there were forty to fifty ducks of seven species. A pair of Buffleheads were especially interesting because of the frequncy of their diving. Since they were by themselves and the sexes easily distinguishable, I timed them to see how long they remained under water. The male's performance was as follows: 30, 24, 25, 27, 23, 28, and 30 seconds, an average time of 26.5 second per dive. About five seconds elapsed between dives. He was therefore under water 84% of the time. The female did nearly as well. Six consecutive dives were timed at 24, 28, 25, 21, 25, 28 seconds, an average of 24.8 seconds per dive. Flocks of Tree Sparrows were feeding along the shores of both lakes. A small covey of Bobwhites were flushed in the grassy area near one lake. Bluebirds were surprisingly plentiful, and Mourning Doves were already giving their spring mating calls. Coming across the crest of a rolling hill, I surprised a red fox less than a hundred feet away. He trotted leisurely across a little valley without once looking back.

Miss Nell Dishman, the curator, was most cooperative and again expressed the hope that the K. O. S. would prepare a checklist of the birds of the park. She said that their most valuable Audubon exhibit is a set of eight original bird paintings by the master, painted on tin and wood. The museum also has his famous painting of Daniel Boone. Many natural history books from Audubon's personal library, including his set of Alexander Wilson's AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGY with critical notes by Audubon on the margins, are on display. The museum is chiefly devoted to the display of the hand-colored prints from the double-elephant folio. Among these is the famous one of the Mockingbird's nest being attacked by a rattlesnake. This painting was much condemned when first issued, both because rattlesnakes were said not to climb trees and because the position of the head and fangs was objected to. However, many naturalists came to the rescue and reported the presence of rattlesnakes in trees, and the head was found correct for the southern rattlesnake.

The following birds were all seen on March 3 within the park area: Mallard, 2; Baldpate, 2; Pintail, 7; Ring-necked Duck ,20 plus; Canvasback, 1; Lesser Scaup, 1; Bufflehead, 2; Turkey Vulture, 1; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Bobwhite, 4; Killdeer, 1; Mourning Dove, 6; Belted Kingfisher, 3; Flicker, 3; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 4; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 5; Blue Jay, 7; Crow, 6 plus; Carolina Chickadee, 9; Tufted Titmouse, 12; Brown Creeper, 1; Carolina Wren, 8; Mockingbird, 2; Robin, 6; Bluebird, 10; English Sparrow, 15 plus, around the museum; Meadowlark, 2; Cardinal, 20; Goldfinch, 1; Towhee, 7; Slate-colored Junco, 28; Tree Sparrow, 24; Field Sparrow, 6; Song Sparrow, 5. Total, 36 species, 234 plus individuals.

—Harvey B. Lovell, Louisville.

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BREAKING ALL RECORDS—It seemed impossible while it was in progress; it seems no less impossible, now that it is over. It was the weekend of May 6-7, 1944, at Dr. Lancaster's cabins, fourteen miles northwest of Bowling Green. The weather was very cold for the time of year, with a large frost on the night of May 6. The winter residents had been delayed until all the spring migrants had arrived| Thus I was able to see on this weekend trip 113 species of birds, to break all previous records, even though I have tried for many seasons to see all the birds possible in a single day or weekend. When I reach 80 species, I know that additional species will cost a lot of effort. I worked hard at seeing the whole array of birds, knowing that opportunities such as this one are extremely rare. Weather conditions such as those of the spring of 1944 probably are not duplicated in twenty years.

Mere numbers of species did not represent alone the joy of the trip. Everywhere I went I found birds that are common in migration, but I also saw several species that are very rare in my experience. On the river bank a Mourning Warbler bobbed up within twenty feet of me and sat in bright light long enough for me to get several good looks at him. I saw the Blue-headed Vireo many times and heard its distinctive note everywhere. Once a Philadelphia Vireo came close and remained for several minutes. The woods were full of Gray-cheeked, Olive-backed, and Wood Thrushes, but I found only one Veery. Of the winter residents the following were still present: Cedar Waxwing, Purple Finch, and Fox, Swamp, White-throated, and White-crowned Sparrows. The biggest single thing was the finding of 27 species of warblers, another life record. Practically every species of resident and summer resident appears on the list, the exceptions being three species of hawks, two species of owls, the Migrant Shrike, the Grasshopper Sparrow, and the Whip-poor-will.

Wild-woods birds came right up to the cabins. I could hear the Blue-winged Warbler singing as I ate my lunch at the cabin. Within a few yards of the cabin I found the Ovenbird. Many of the tree-inhabiting warblers flitted around in the yard or just over the edge of the cliff.

These big records in the spring migration early became a distinct part of my life as an ornithologist. They are part of the **Ornithomania vernalis**, "spring bird-madness," that I described in the WARBLER four years ago, a malady that returns with "ever-returning spring."

Here is my list of species, printed as a record and as a challenge to all of us: Green Heron, Wood Duck, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Osprey, Sparrow Hawk, Bobwhite, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Barred Owl, Chuck-will's-widow, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Prairie Horned Lark, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Veery, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Sycamore Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Pine Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Yellow Palm Warbler, Ovenbird, Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Maryland Yellowthroat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Redstart, English Sparrow, Bobolink, Meadowlark, Red-wing, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel, Purple Finch, Goldfinch, Towhee, Lark Sparrow, Bachman's Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow.

—Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green.

BECKHAM BIRD CLUB'S SPRING FIELD DAY—April 30, 1944, was ideal for our annual spring field day. Miss Marie Peiper, one of our members, invited the Beckham Bird Club to use her home, out the River Road, as a meeting place. We assembled there at nine in the morning and divided into four groups, each of which was in charge of one or more experienced bird students.

The location was a choice one for bird study because of the variety of habitats to be found within easy walking distance of the Peiper property. One group, using binoculars and a telescope, surveyed the river for water birds and found a flock of thirty Lesser Scaups and a Forster's Tern, as well as Herring Gulls. The party that went to the Indian Hills ponds looked among the cattails for nesting Red-wings and in more open places for shore birds. They found Solitary Sandpipers, Blue-winged Teal, and Coots. Their most important find was a Long-billed Marsh Wren. Another group followed an abandoned interurban track for several miles through an overgrown wooded area at the foot of a hillside covered with deep-blue delphinium, yellow celandine poppies, and levender camassia (wild hyacinths). Here all kinds of warblers were found in the bushes and trees that were not yet in full leaf. Particularly interesting was a Kentucky Warbler that kept about five feet ahead of the party for half an hour or more. It would hide under a wild ginger leaf or among the trilliums and bloodroots. Then it would again hop a few feet ahead. The fourth group went to the open fields south of the Ohio River, where they found many birds and several interesting nests: a Cardinal's with two eggs, a Carolina Wren's with young, and a Brown Thrasher's with eggs. A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher attracted attention when it flew from its nest in the fork of a shrub elm tree about fifteen feet above the ground. Almost immediately a Cowbird hovered over the nest but was frightened by the group and flew away.

We assembled at one o'clock in the wooded park-like area far in the rear of the Peiper home, where we compared notes while we rested and ate. After dinner some of us went up to Goose Creek, about a mile away, to search for the Prothonotary, Myrtle, and other warblers known to frequent that area. In the soft mud along the stream we found the Black-crowned Night Heron's footprints. While we sat by the creek waiting for the birds, a beautiful Prothonotary alighted on the low branch of a budding sycamore that hung over the stream. The bird and its reflection in the still water thrilled us, a fitting close to a perfect day.

Ninety-two species of birds rewarded the efforts of the thirty-two people who participated in the field day. Here are the people: Mrs. Mame Boulware, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard C. Brecher, Ruth Brecher, Helen Browning, Floyd S. Carpenter, Warren Dennis, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Dietrich, Mrs. Eugene Doelckner, Caldwell Dugan, Thelma Gentry, Louis Geisel, Alice Horneman, Carl Kerbel, Henrietta Link, Harvey Lovell, Louis Peiper, Marie Peiper, Lt. William Randall, Evelyn Schneider, Mabel Slack, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Charles Thacher, Gladys Wheeler, Virginia Winstandley, Audrey A. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Zimmer, Henry Zimmer, and Mary Zimmer.

And here are the birds: Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Green Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Blue-winged Teal, Lesser Scaup, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Osprey, Sparrow Hawk, Bobwhite, Coot, Killdeer, Solitary Sandpiper, Herring Gull, Forster's Tern, Mourning Dove, Whip-poor-will, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Wood Pewee, Rough-winged Swallow, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Winter Wren, Carolina Wren, Long-billed Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Sycamore Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Ovenbird, Louisiana Water-thrush, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded Warbler, Canada Warbler, English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Goldfinch, Towhee, Grasshopper Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

—Audrey A. Wright, Louisville.

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SOME NOTES FROM PROVIDENCE—All winter we fed the birds under a pine tree and in its vicinity. In April we counted as many as twelve different pairs of birds feeding under the tree. One that pleased us especially was the female Downy Woodpecker that condescended to feed on the ground with the others; she could not resist the nuts scattered there. Then to our delight she drilled the neatest little hole in the weeping willow that stands by the fishpool and is beginning to die. She scattered chips all over that part of the yard. One morning later we laughed to see a baby Downy perched on the clothes wire pole, looking as saucy as you please. It was the first baby Downy we had ever had the pleasure of seeing, and what a treat!

A pair of Bluebirds built in a special home we had previously prepared for them. I have seen and heard more Bluebirds than for many years. Mother hung an old pair of pants up in the coal house, and a pair of House Wrens have built a nest in them and already hatched out their young. I know where there are at least half a dozen Doves' nests and at least as many Robins'. One Brown Thrasher's nest in a weeping mulberry bush has afforded me an interesting study. For one whole day we had a half dozen Golden-crowned Kinglets that fed in the pine tree. I watched for the Ruby-crowned but never did see any. Just last week I identified the Yellow-breasted Chat for the first time. I heard him long before I could locate him, and what a clown he is! I have been hearing him at nights along with the Whip-poor-wills. The Orchard Orioles have been plentiful around here, and I have seen one Baltimore Oriole. We have with us the Wood Thrush—and how I love its song—, Catbirds, Tufted Titmouse, Cardinals, Blue Jays, Purple Martins, and Bronzed Grackles. I think I am gradually getting my sparrows straightened out. I have had plenty of trouble, but I have accomplished the identification largely by a process of elimination. I believe my favorite is the Vesper, that is, his song. However, the White-crowned Sparrows have fed under our pine just like chickens, scratching somewhat like the friendly Towhees.

About two weeks ago I had a wonderful experience with some Indigo Buntings. Just a little way from town, by a stream bordered by willows and patches of brambles and blackberry briars, I beheld flashes of half a dozen Indigo Buntings darting here and there, and seeming to vie with one another in song. Anywhere from two to six were singing at the same time. I believe that the Indigo Bunting is my favorite songster, and I love its color. From this trip I returned home and composed the sonnet, "To an Indigo Bunting," which appears elsewhere in this issue.

—Sue Wyatt Semple, Providence.

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BECKHAM BIRD CLUB NOTES

By HENRIETTA LINK

Since my last report in the WARBLER the Beckham Bird Club has had many interesting speakers and features at its monthly programs. In January, Dr. Harvey Lovell gave a talk on "The Nesting of the Horned Lark in Louisville." He supplemented his interesting discussion with slides taken in Seneca Park, Louisville. At the same meeting a most delightful film, "Hummingbird Home Life," was shown.

At the February meeting, Mrs. Lovell spoke on "A Bird in the Hand." She was assisted by Dr. Lovell, who showed many slides. Who could be better qualified to speak on this subject than Dr. and Mrs. Lovell, who do so much banding and whose actual experiences in their own back yard have been so unusual? Mr. Warren Dennis spoke at this meeting on "Gull Oddities." He supplemented his notes with diagrams drawn by himself. Miss Mabel Slack concluded the meeting by discussing "Our Unusual Winter Visitants," also illustrated with slides. One can hardly imagine the great number of visitants that sometimes appear in Louisville.

At the next meeting Mrs. Frederick Stamm gave a talk on "Why Sanctuaries?" All who heard her hope for a local sanctuary. Mrs. Stamm also gave this talk before another club. All of us envision a sanctuary in the near future. Miss Bernice Ruckman reported on the Ivory-billed Woodpecker at the same meeting.

At the February meeting Miss Audrey Wright made a suggestion that the Beckham Bird Club feels most worthwhile. She suggested that for future programs it would be helpful for some one to present the migrants that could be expected from one meeting to the next. Miss Wright gave the first of this series at the March meeting. In April Mr. S. Charles Thacher spoke on "Summer Arrivals," and in May Miss Thelma Gentry reported on "How to Find Our Common Summer Birds." We have all enjoyed this new feature, especially those who are not so well acquainted with all our birds. These talks have also given the club a chance to show off its splendid new slides. There are ninety-seven of these slides. They were reproduced by a group of our members: Messrs. Leonard Brecher, Floyd Carpenter, and Kent Previette and Misses Evelyn Schneider and Audrey Wright, the latter two helping in mounting. We are proud of these slides, all our very own. We hope that they will be used further and that they will be a means of introducing our birds to others.

At the April meeting Miss Marie Peiper gave a report on "The Life History of the Blue Goose," a most interesting study. Miss Evelyn Schneider read a paper on "The Chuck-will's-widow in Kentucky," which appeared in the spring, 1944, issue of the WARBLER.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PUDDLE AND DIVING DUCKS

By WARREN P. SIGHTS, Paducah

Ducks are divided into two great classes, puddle ducks and diving ducks. Among the puddle ducks are the Mallard, Gadwall, Baldpate, European Widgeon, Blue-winged Teal, Green-winged Teal, Cinnamon Teal, Shoveler, Wood Duck, Pintail, and Black Duck. Among the diving ducks we find the Ring-necked, Golden-eye, Barrows's Golden-eye, Harlequin, Bufflehead, Greater Scaup, Lesser Scaup, the Sea Scoters, and the Eiders. The Mergansers and the Ruddy Duck also fall in the last category.

As the name implies, the diving ducks obtain most of their food by diving to more or less great depths and feeding off the bottom; thus they have more compact and heavily muscled bodies than the puddle ducks, which obtain their food by feeding in shallow water, where it is necessary only to tip up to obtain the food. In addition to being more heavily muscled, the diving ducks have much coarser plumage, and their feet, in comparison with the size of the body, are much larger.

I weighed and measured the following: 25 Mallards, 10 Black Ducks, 7 Pintails, 16 Wood Ducks, 5 Green-winged Teal, 3 Ring-necked Ducks, 25 Lesser Scaup, and 1 Ruddy Duck and was able to compile the following table:

Name	Average Weight	Average Length of Middle Toe
	PUDDLE DUCKS	
Mallard	3.4 pounds	63mm.
Black Duck	3.5 pounds	55mm
Pintail	2.5 pounds	54mm.
Wood Duck	1.75 pounds	45mm.
Green-winged Teal	.75 pounds	38mm.
	DIVING DUCKS	
Ring-necked Duck	1.5 pounds	67mm.
Lesser Scaup	1.5 pounds	64mm.
Ruddy Duck	1.0 pounds	60mm.

It is regrettable that I was not able to obtain any of the larger diving ducks, such as the Canvasback, Redheaded, or Greater Scaup; consequently, the table seems to contradict itself because I have only the smallest of the diving ducks, whereas the puddle duck table covers all sizes. The reason for this heavier makeup of the diving ducks is apparent when we consider the great depths to which they dive.

Canvasbacks have been caught in fish traps at depths of over a hundred feet, according to Indians at Bachawana Bay whom my father has known and trusted for ten years. As we know that the air pressure at sea level is almost fifteen pounds per square inch and water pressure increases fifteen pounds for every thirty-two feet we go down, we find that these birds are subjecting their bodies to the tremendous pressure of sixty-one and two-tenths pounds per square inch.

An excellent way for the beginner to tell the difference between diving and puddle ducks in the hand is by the hind-toe formula. The hind toe of the diving duck has a lobe so that it resembles a paddle; the puddle ducks lack this membrane.

As indicated above, the puddle duck's plumage is finer in texture and generally more beautiful. An exception to this is the Harlequin Duck, which, although a diving duck, is very beautiful. The puddle ducks also possess a characteristic which is, in general, lacking in the diving ducks. This is the speculum, a square patch of iridescent feathers, colored green, blue, or violet, found on the secondaries of the wings.

As can be seen from these characteristics, the diving ducks live on large bodies of water and are never far from such bodies. Their wings are proportionately smaller than those of puddle ducks, because the diving ducks would have all the room they would need for a run on the surface of the water to gather speed for a take-off. The puddle ducks often feed on small sloughs and puddles, sometimes on solid ground; therefore they would have no room for such a run and would be obliged to take off from a sationary position. This they do in a single vertical bound, which often carries them six feet above the surface of the water. Many a pot-hunter has pulled the trigger a second too late and has seen his charge of number fives rip the water where a moment before a dozen Mallards or similar ducks sat peacefully.

When in flight the wings of the puddle ducks beat much more slowly than those of the diving ducks. An exception to this are the teals, which fly with their throttle wide open all the time. The diving ducks beat their wings rapidly; the smaller the duck, the faster the wing beat. A regular gradation is seen from the tiny Bufflehead to the big Canvasback.

It is my opinion that as a group the divers are faster than the puddle ducks, while the Canvasback is the fastest of them all, with the Pintail coming in second. "But," you say, "what about the teals, I thought they were fastest." My answer to that is that the apparent speed of the teal is an optical illusion, resulting from their smaller size and habit of flying close to the ground.

The diving ducks are more apt to be found in large flocks or rafts, numbering up to a hundred individuals. The puddle ducks, except in unusual feeding conditions, are likely to be in small flocks. I have seen over three thousand Mallards, Pintails, and Black Ducks on one sandbar.

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MEMBERSHIP LIST OF THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY AS OF JUNE 10, 1944

Adams, Mrs. Kerney, Lancaster Ave., Richmond.
Allen, Dr. W. R., Dept. of Zoology, University of Kentucky, Lexington.
Anderson, Anne, 1031 S. Fourth, Louisville.
Baines, J. McClain, 213 Weissinger Apts., Louisville 2.
Baldez, Mrs. J. D., 110 Hillcrest, Louisville 6.
Baker, Gerald F., R. F. D. 2, Golden Pond.
Bandeen, Mrs. S. G., 627 S. Main, Shelbyville.
Bangson, Dr. John S., Biology Dept., Berea College, Berea.
Beatty, Guy V., Glasgow.
Beck, Albert, Lake Dreamland, Shively.
Bergman, Amy, 209 University Ave., Lexington.
Barnhill, Mrs. Mary E., Teachers College, Richmond.
Boulware, Mrs. Mame M., 206 West Oak, Louisville 3.
Boyd, Lyda, 1382 S. First, Louisville 8.
Brecher, Leonard, 1900 Spring Drive, Louisville 5.
Brecher, Mrs. Leonard, 1900 Spring Drive, Louisville 5.
Browning, Helen G., 206 West Oak, Louisville 3.
Bryens, Oscar McKinley, R. 1, McMillan, Luce County, Mich.
Carpenter, Floyd S., 2402 Longest Ave., Louisville 4.
Cava, Ennio, 8 Keller Ct., Louisville 8.

Chamberlain, Sgt. Carlisle D., 230 M. P. Co., A. P. O. 600, New York.
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Clay, Dr. W. M., Biology Dept., University of Louisville, Louisville 8.
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Conlee, Vernon N., 3603 Hycliffe Ave., St. Matthews.
Corbin, Mrs. Jim, Princeton Street, Providence.
Counce, Dr. Cynthia, Western State Hospital, Hopkinsville.
Corey, Marie, Crane Nest.
Davies, Dr. P. A., 3124 Meadowlark Rd., Louisville 6.
Davis, Prof. George, State Teachers College, Murfreesboro, Tenn.
Deats, Mrs. Ernest, Route 2, Anchorage.
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Dietrich, Otto K., 225 Glendora Ave., Louisville 12.
Dietrich, Mrs. Otto K., 225 Glendora Ave., Louisville 12.
Dodge, Major Victor K., 137 Bell Court, West, Lexington.
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Gilchrist, Dr. Susie H., South Broadway, Providence.
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Lancaster, Dr. L. Y., Biology Dept., Western State Teachers College, Bowling Green.
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Link, Henrietta, 175 N. Jane, Louisville 6.
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Lusky, Beatrice, General Hospital, Louisville 2.
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Lovell, Mrs. Harvey B., 3011 Meade Ave., Louisville 4.
Lovell, Mrs. John H., 28 Winter Street, Sanford, Maine.
Marsh, Beulah, Route 4, Cynthiana.
Mason, Esther, 2523 Montgomery, Louisville 12.
Mattmiller, H. W., 2315 Bolling Ave., Louisville 10.
Mayer, John H., 103 S. Miller, Cynthiana.
Mayer, Mrs. John H., 103 S. Miller, Cynthiana.
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Mengel, Robert, care John V. Collins, Fidelity and Columbia Trust Co., Louisville 2.
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Miles, Todd, Box 406, Maysville.
Miller, John C., 1601 Lucia Ave., Louisville 4.
Mitchell, H. C., 4435 S. Third, Louisville 8.
Mitchell, Mrs. H. C. 4435 S. Third, Louisville 8.
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Monroe, Burt, Jr., Ridge Road, Anchorage.
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Morrell, Charles K., 119 E. Maxwell, Lexington 8.
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McGaw, Mrs. Prue Wyatt, Box 555, Providence.
McGill, Mrs. J. W., 2123 Date Street, Louisville.
McKinley, Pfc. George G., 104 N. Western Pkwy., Louisville 12.
Nickell, Walter P., Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.
Nuckols, Mrs. Nelson, Glasgow.
Oberholser, Harry C., Curator of Ornithology, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cleveland 1[illegible], Ohio.
Olsen, Humphrey, Pikeville College, Pikeville.
O'Neal, Emma, 2608 W. Market, Louisville 12.
O'Neal, Pvt. John A., 302 MPEG Co., A. P. O. 230, New York.
Palmore, Dr. E. L., Glasgow.
Pennebaker, Dr. G. B., Morehad State Teachers College, Morehead.
Pickens, Dr. A. L., Dept. of Biology, Presbyterian College, Clinton, S. C.
Peiper, Marie, Longview and Upper River Road, Louisville 6.
Previette, Kent H., 2220 Highland Ave., Louisville 4.
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Schulman, Anna, 2515 Valley Vista Road, Louisville 5.
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Sharpe, Mrs. G. Norton, 174 E. Maxwell Street, Lexington 8.
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Soaper, R. C., 300 Rudy Ave., Henderson.
Stamm, Mrs. Frederick W., 2118 Lakeside Drive, Louisville 5.
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Strull, Charles, 2100 Murray Ave., Louisville 5.
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Thacher, Mrs. S. Charles, 2918 Brownsboro Rd., Louisville 6.
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Troupe, Sgt. Robert E., Hq. Co., ARTC, Fort Knox.
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Williams, Ollie Mae, 242 Pennsylvania Ave., Louisville 5.
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Wyatt, Grace, Murray State Teachers College, Murray.
Wyman, Mary May, 1040 Mary Street, Louisville 4.
Young, James B., 2516 Talbott Ave., Louisville 5.
Zimmer, Henry, Route 6, Box 474, Hikes Lane, Louisville.
Zimmer, Mrs. Henry, Route 6, Box 474, Hikes Lane, Louisville.

INSTITUTIONS

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EXCHANGES

AUK, care John T. Zimmer, Editor, American Museum of Natural History, 79th Street and Central Park, West, New York City.
Fish and Wildlife Service, Chicago, Ill.
Indiana Audubon Society, care Dr. Earl Brooks, Noblesville, Ind.
JACK PINE WARBLER, Kingman Memorial Museum, Battle Creek, Michigan.
Library of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.
National Audubon Society, 1006 Fifth Avenue, care Marie V. Beals, New York City 28.
Tennessee Ornithological Society, care A. F. Ganier, Editor, 2112 Woodlawn Drive, Nashville, Tenn.
WILSON BULLETIN, care J. Van Tyne, Editor, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded—1923 by B. C. Bacon, Dr. L. Otley Pindar, and Gordon Wilson.

Purpose—To encourage the study of birds and to sponsor measures for their protection.

Organ—THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, a quarterly magazine of ornithology.

Meetings—Spring, in Louisville, at the time of the Kentucky Education Association;

Fall, in some place of interest out in the state.

Dues—One dollar a year; residents of the state and others interested in ornithology are urged to become members.

1944 Officers—

President—Dr. Harvey B. Lovell, University of Louisville.
Vice-President—Major Victor K. Dodge, Lexington.

Secretary-Treasurer—Miss Helen Browning, 206 West Oak, Louisville.

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Send dues to the Secretary-Treasurer.

Send notes and articles for publication to Dr. Gordon Wilson,

Editor of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, Bowling Green.

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
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NATIONAL MUSEUM

Autumn
1944

Vol. 20
No. 4

. . . The . . .
Kentucky Warbler

"To sift the sparkling from the dull, and the true from the false, is the aim of every Ornithologist."

VOL. XX FALL, 1944 NO. 4

JESSE DADE FIGGINS

By VICTOR K. DODGE, Lexington

Jesse Dade Figgins was born August 17, 1867, near Jefferson, Maryland, and died June 10, 1944, in his home in Lexington, Kentucky. The last article written by him for publication appeared in Volume XX, Number 3 (Summer, 1944) of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER. It was entitled "Geographical Alterations in the Habitats of Birds." A few months before his death he had completed a monograph on THE BIRDS OF KENTUCKY, which is now in the hands of the Department of Zoology of the University of Kentucky and is to be published soon.

During his college career and for several years thereafter Mr. Figgins studied and collected to qualify as a technical ornithologist. His success was good enough to win the approval of the American Museum of Natural History, and he was recommended by it to the then Lieutenant Robert E. Peary, U. S. N., for the position of naturalist on the 1896 and 1897 expeditions to the Arctic regions about North Greenland. We learn from the March, 1938, PUBLISHED PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLORADO MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY that on these expeditions with Lieutenant Peary Mr. Figgins played an important part not only in the collection of mammals and birds but also in the removal to the American Museum of Natural History, New York, of a 36½ ton meteorite which had previously been found near Cape York, Greenland.

The collections secured in North Greenland proved so interesting to the American Museum of Natural History, the institution receiving them, that Mr. Figgins was asked to join its staff. In extending this invitation, it was proposed that he undertake the preparation of a series of exhibits of Greenland subjects, including habitat groups of the native Eskimos, for which he made a series of life casts. Thus afforded an opportunity for the development of the more popular phases of museum work, Mr. Figgins organized and became the head of the American Museum's Department of Preparation and Exhibition. It was while in this capacity that he was invited to the directorship of the Colorado Museum of Natural Hstory, in 1910, a position which he held with pronounced success, for the next twenty-five years.

Of late years Mr. Figgins's studies were along geological and paleontological lines and especially as these subjects relate to evidence of early man in America. His paper published in NATURAL

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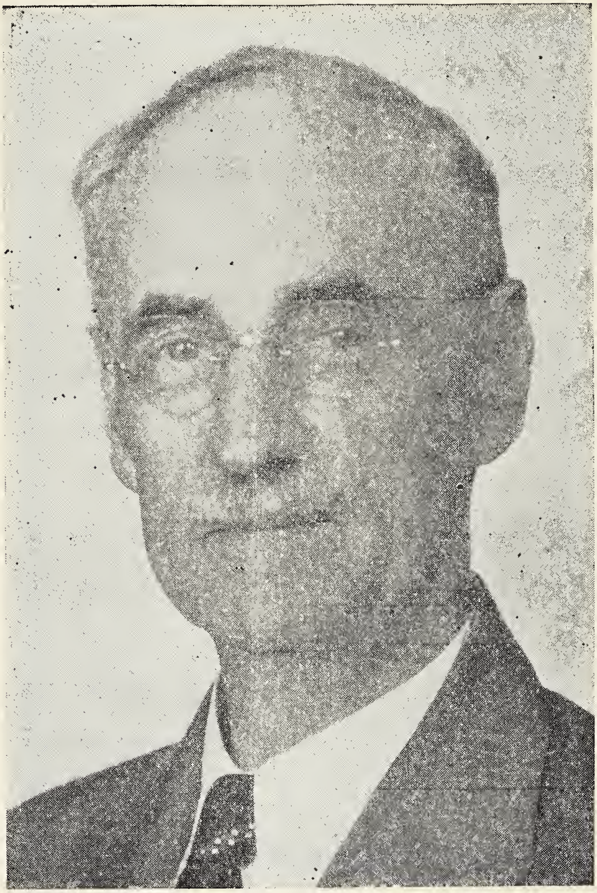
HISTORY (XXVII, 229-239, No. 3, 1927) announced to the world the discovery of the oldest evidence of human occupation in the western hemisphere, which he described as the Folsom culture.



JESSE DADE FIGGINS, 1867-1944

In 1935 he was invited to the directorship of the Bernheim Foundation Museum, in Louisville, Kentucky. This work he carried on for seven years, with headquarters at Lexington. Like a thunderbolt out of a clear sky financial disaster overtook Mr. Bernheim, and his schemes for setting up in Kentucky the greatest of all wildlife museums came to an abrupt halt. Bravely setting aside his disappointment, Mr. Figgins found solace in an opportunity to prepare a monograph on Kentucky birds. His recent seven years of study of Kentucky birds and life zones in pursuance of the Bernheim project had qualified for him for the undertaking.

Mr. Figgins was married in 1893 to Miss Jane Marr, who died, leaving him three children. His second wife was Mrs. Helen M. Haskell, who survives him.

Even during his last illness his brilliant intellect and sense of humor blessed all who came in contact with him. A few minutes before he breathed his last, he requested his beloved wife to get some rest: "If I need you, Nurse will call you." We know that he realized he was passing, and we know he felt no fear. He knew and loved the land and the sea. In his prime he had faced death in the form of the thundering Arctic ice packs, and so it is easy for us to imagine him saying, at the end, as did Walt Whitman:

"Come lovely and soothing Death . . . .
I bring thee a song that when thou must indeed come, come unfalteringly.
From me to thee, glad serenade;
And sights of the open landscape and the high spread sky are fitting,
And life and the fields and the huge and thoughtful night.
The night in silence under many a star,
The ocean shore and the husky, whispering wave whose voice I know."

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Mrs. Figgins and the University of Kentucky have furnished us a fairly complete bibliography of Mr. Figgins's long and interesting work as an anthopologist, a museum specialist, and an ornithologist. Harry C. Oberholser named a race of Brazilian birds after Mr. Figgins in 1931, namely **Uropelia camprestris figginsi** (PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLORADO MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, Vol. X, No. 5).

1922. Additional Notes on the Status of the Subspecific Races of **Branta Canadensis.** PROC. COLO. MUS. NAT. HIST., Vol. IV, No. 3, pp. 1-19.

1923. The Breeding Birds of the Vicinity of Black Bayou and Bird Island, Cameron Parish, Louisiana. AUK, XL, 666-677. (An annotated list of 42 species, mostly aquatic forms, including such rarities as the Mottled Duck, the Roseate Spoonbill, the White Ibis, the Sandhill Crane, the Louisiana Clapper Rail, and Attwater's Prairie Chicken. The notes on the habits of the Black Vulture are quoted extensively in Bent's LIFE HISTORIES OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS OF PREY, Part I, p. 35).

1925. Some observations Relative to Hybrids and Integration. PROC. COLO. MUS. NAT. HIST., Vol. V, No. 1, pp. 1-12. (Advances the theory that many subspecies of birds are really hybrids.

1925. Some Observations Relative to Meteorological Influences. PROC. COLO. MUS. NAT. HIST., Vol. V, No. 2, pp. 12-22. (Skins of Towhees placed in strong sunlight were noted to fade in a short time. On this observation it is suggested that many of the subspecific differences in birds are due to the fading of their colors because of strong sunlight or longer periods since the last moult).

1925. Twice-told Tales. PROC. COLO. MUS. NAT. HIST., Vol. V, No. 3, pp. 23-32. (Further discussion and objections to the rapidly expanding number of subspecies of birds).

1927. The Antiquity of Man in America, NATURAL HISTORY, Vol. XXVII, No. 3, pp. 229-239.

1930. Proposals Relative to Certain Subspecific Groups of **Carpodacus mexicanus.** PROC. COLO. MUS. NAT. HIST., Vol. IX, No. 1. (Three races of **Carpodacus mexicanus** proposed: **C. m. smithi** Figgins, **C. m. obscurus** McCall, and **C. m. sayi** Figgins, the latter a new name for **C. m. frontalis** (Say).

1931. A Proposed Standard of Viewpoints from Which to Illustrate Horned and Antlered Mammal Skulls. PROC. COLO. MUS. NAT. HIST., Vol. X, No. 3, September 26.

1933. The Bison of the Western Area of the Mississippi Basin, PROC. COLO. MUS. NAT. HIST., Vol. XII, No. 4, December 5.

1934. Folsom and Yuma Artifacts. PROC. COLO. MUS. NAT. HIST., Vol. XIII, No. 2, December 29.

1935. New World Man. PROC. COLO. MUS. NAT. HIST., Vol. XIV, No. 1, July 22.

1935. Folsom and Yuma Artifacts, Part 2. PROC. COLO. MUS. NAT. HIST., Vol. XIV, No. 2, October 3.

1940. BENT'S LIFE HISTORIES OF NORTH AMERICAN CUCKOOS, GOATSUCKERS, HUMMINGBIRDS, AND THEIR ALLIES, Bulletin 176. (Mr. Figgins is quoted in this book in the article on Costa's Hummingbird, p. 369).

1944. Geographic Alterations in the Habitats of Birds. KENTUCKY WARBLER, Vol. XX, No. 2, pp. 25-28. (Traces the extension of the range of the Prairie Horned Lark in Kentucky during recent years).
(This was Mr. Figgins's last published article.—Ed.)

Unpublished. BIRDS OF KENTUCKY. Manuscript now in the possession of the University of Kentucky, under whose supervision Mr. Figgins did the work. It is to be published as soon as funds become available.

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THE WARBLERS AND WRENS OF MAYSVILLE

By THOMAS KEITH, Limestone Science Club

The warm sun of an April day beamed down on the ground, still wet from the warm shower of the night before, and the small stream which followed the path down a wooded hillside busily rippled on its long journey. A flash of flaming orange settled on a nearby tree, a Blackburnian Warbler, heralding the arrival of the first major wave of warblers. There had been earlier migrants, such as the Worm-eating, the Black and White, and the Myrtle Warblers, but they were not a part of this wave. Farther up the path I could hear the jocose calling of the Yellow-breasted Chat.

Also in the initial wave were the Pine Warbler, the common Black-throated Green; the Cerulean, blue as the sky; the Bluewing, singing its buzzing lyric; as well as the Yellow and the Black and White, which arrived earlier. Such was the gathering of birds at Maysvlle, Kentucky, on April 27, 1943.

On the following day the Redstarts were seen in great numbers catching their insect food. This miniature Baltimore Oriole is to the eye what a firecracker is to the ear. Dr. Chapman says he is "the little torch that flashes in the gloomy depths of tropical forests." Also arriving were the Nashville Warbler and those two characteristic songsters, the Ovenbird and the Yellow-throat. A charming lyric sung on the wing attracted us down along a stream, where after a long chase, we saw the warbler walking along the edge of the water wagging its tail. This musician was the Louisiana Water-Thrush.

Following a period of a week during which few individual migrants were recorded, another wave larger than the first arrived to feed on the various insect pests rapidly emerging from their eggs and cocoons. Among these new arrivals were the Cape May, which seems to be more abundant recently; the Canada; the Baybreasted; the Chestnut-sided; the Magnolia; and the Black-throated Blue.

Comparatively few of the warblers nest in this vicinity, only five definitely: the Chat, the Yellow-throat, the Yellow, the Louisiana Water-thrush, and the Ovenbird. In late May at the foot of the hillside we were attracted to a nest containing its speckled eggs by the "witchity-witchity-witch" of the Yellow-throat. When the young hatched, there was no resting for the black-masked father and his mate, but even after the young hatched, the female remained on the nest a great part of the time. A Cowbird had deposited her big speckled egg in the nest. In spite of the fact that we knew that a scientist never interferes in the course of nature, we decided to be altruistic rather than scientific and so removed this nesting hazard. However, it was all in vain, as a thunderstorm drowned the nestings and partially destroyed the nest.

On the top of the hill was a nest of a Yellow Warbler. It, too, was destroyed by some predator. The frail structure had been strewn over the ground. While the nests of the other three species were not found, their summer residence was attested by their constant presence throughout the summer season.

At the time that the warbler migration attracted our attention, in an old chicken house was found the wonderfully constructed nest of a pair of Carolina Wrens. This nest, completely roofed over by these clever architects had to be entered through a hole in the side. The parents were raising five newly-hatched nestlings, each of which had the appearance of a bill and two eyes; the parents alternated between feeding their charges and scolding the intruder, namely, me. Again and again the rust-brown female approached cautiously and flew away frightened by my unwanted presence. Finally she decided that the danger was only imaginary and fed her babies anyway. Soon the male returned with the market basket and less cautiously deposited the contents into seemingly limitless depths of open mouths. This process continued from dawn until noon. Then came a brief siesta, after which the male sallied forth apparently intent on establishing still another home. The female, after enjoying a good meal, returned to feed her children at five-minute intervals. Despite the occasional escapades of the father, no family was better cared for. Woe betide the Blue Jay that had designs on breaking up this home of the wrens!

On a higher level of the slope, not fifty feet distant, was the home of the Bewick's Wren. The adults alternated between flooding the hillside with their melodious, Song Sparrow-like song and feeding their young fledglings. They were easy to distinguish from the other wrens by their long black tails spotted around the edges and held at a ninety-degree angle to their bodies. These mites also knew how to reprimand the intruder, and the similarity of their scolding to that of the Carolina was more marked than the songs.

Still farther up the hill warbled the impish House Wren, whose nest was concealed in a pile of rocks and entered through a small hole in front.

With the exception of the House Wren, which winters in the South Atlantic and Gulf States, these wrens are permanent residents on this hillside or in the vicinity. The familiar song of the Carolina may be heard with its equal vigor on a sunny day in December or on a day in May. The Bewick's, on the other hand, is more retiring in winter, and its song is rarely heard from early fall until spring. The Winter Wren, down from the north, replaces the House Wren during the fall and winter months and often feeds from our window boxes.

The nesting season over, the troops of migrants again return southward, but the warblers were now less gaily colored. The Blackburnian no longer boasted its flaming orange. The Black-throated Green was much less gay, and the Chestnut-sided, the Blackburnian, and the Cape May were almost exactly alike in plumage. Others, such as the Redstart, retained their spring coloring. Several new species were added: the Prairie, the Golden-winged, the Wilson's. The 1943 ornithological year ended with the snow-covered hillside still furnishing food and shelter to Carolina Chickadees, Cardinals, Titmice, and the ever-melodious Carolina Wrens.

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REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT FOR 1943-44

Because of war restrictions of gasoline and travel in general, the officers of our society cancelled both the spring and the fall meetings. In spite of this, our membership, as shown in the summer issue, is slightly larger than ever before. We now have members from Maine to California. During the year several large museums have added the KENTUCKY WARBLER to their files: the Smithsonian Institution, the American Museum of Natural History, and the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University.

Two of the articles in the KENTUCKY WARBLER were abstracted in WILDLIFE REVIEW, published by the national Fish and Wildlife Service. These were "Notes on the Wild Turkey in Western Kentucky," by Gerald F. Baker, and "The Relation of Vegetational Life Forms to the Distribution of Breeding Birds," by Leonard C. Brecher. A large number of requests for these articles have come from all over the country.

We have continued our affiliation with the Junior Academy of Science. We again offered cash prizes for the best paper on birds and gave three free memberships in the Kentucky Ornithological Society. The first award was divided between Frank Quigley and Jimmy O'Bannon; the prize subscription went to Wilkie Burns Gooch, Mona Holton, and Marie Corey.

The society now has a life member. Mr. Ralph Ellis, Berkeley, California, has sent us a check for $25.00, for which he asks to be enrolled as a life member. Miss Evelyn Schneider and Mrs. S. Charles Thacher have also pledged to become life members. We need one more in order to buy another share in Building and Loan stock to add to our endowment of $300.00 left us by one of our founders, Dr. L. Otley Pindar. Since contributions to the K. O. S.

are deductable from federal and state income tax returns, we urge our members to take out life membership before December 31, 1944.

We are printing a field list of Kentucky birds arranged alphabetically on a double index card. The list will sell at one cent a card, postpaid in lots of 25 or more. Unlike lists previously available, this one will have a comprehensive group of ducks, shore birds, and other migratory birds, about 200 species in all. We urge our members to fill out such a check list whenever they spend several hours in the field. Please send your orders to Miss Helen Browning, our secretary.

—HARVEY B. LOVELL, President, K. O. S., Louisville

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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

RECEIPTS

Balance brought forward from preceding Secretary-Treasurer's report, January 31, 1944	$ 66.84
59 Memberships @ $1.00	59.00
53 Memberships @ .75	39.75
2 Memberships @ .50	1.00
Junior Academy of Science affiliation dues	16.00
Endowment—	
Dividend, Jefferson Savings	4.50
Life Membership, Ralph Ellis	25.00
Sale of back issues of KENTUCKY WARBLER	39.78
Donation of Beckham Bird Club for plates for WARBLER	25.00
Contribution for WARBLER cut	2.29
TOTAL	$279.16

DISBURSEMENTS

Printing 3 issues of WARBLER (including covers)	$102.57
Envelopes for mailing WARBLER (1000)	5.75
Stamps	9.25
Post Cards (100)	1.00
Check Book (20 checks for bank account)	1.00
Tax on balance in bank, July 1, 1944	.09
Membership in Kentucky Conservation Council	2.00
Donation to Junior Academy of Science	5.00
Cut for WARBLER	2.29
Night letter to Dr. Gordon Wilson	.31
TOTAL	$129.26
Balance on hand October 7, 1944	$149.90

—HELEN G. BROWNING, Secy.-Treas., K. O. S., Louisville

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ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

The Fifth Annual Kentucky Wild Life and Natural History Conference was held on September 24, 1944, at South Park Fishing Club, under the direction of Drs. E. K. Hall and Harlow Bishop, with Arthur Unglaub in charge of exhibits. A series of field trips featured the afternoon program, including bird, insect, and geological hikes. The Naturalists' Midway featured the later afternoon program, consisting of about twenty exhibits, many of them alive. Four species of poisonous snakes, including the rare coral snake, and an operation upon a pregnant rat attracted the most attention. An exhibit of twenty birds' nests included those of the Summer Tanager, the Kentucky Warbler, the Goldfinch, and the Barn Swallow. In the evening the first part of the program consisted of a series of talks about the natural history objects found in the region. Harvey B. Lovell gave an illustrated talk on the forty species of birds recorded for the day, which included a Coot, Pied-billed Grebes, the Wilson Warbler, White-throated Sparrows, and a flock of Cedar Waxwings. The feature lecture of the evening was given by Dr. Charles H. Moore, who showed a remarkable series of Kodachrome moving pictures about South America. These included many shorts of birds and animals, particularly those of Brazil. The remainder of the evening was devoted to country square dancing under the direction of Howard Hardaway.

Esther Mason, retiring president of the Beckham chapter, attended the Michigan Biological Station for the 1944 eight-weeks' summer session. She took O. S. Pettingill's course in Ornithology and also Systematic Botany under Frank Gates. Each course met one day a week. The Ornithology class began at 5:30 A. M., with a field trip and a brief stop for breakfast somewhere along the way. Miss Mason saw many new nesting species raising their young for the first time, such as the Black-throated Green and Myrtle Warlers, Cliff and Tree Swallows, the latter in bird boxes, and a colony of Common Terns. Other interesting birds were the Evening Grosbeak, the Short-billed Marsh Wren, the American Bittern, and the Vesper Sparrow. One of her special memories is of the quaking bogs, which quivered until she became—shall we say?—bogsick.

Amy Deane spent eight weeks at Fairlee, Vermont, where she was Nature Counsellor at Camp Aloha. Among the nesting birds whose songs enlivened the summer were the Veery, the Hermit Thrush, the White-throated Sparrow, the Purple Finch, and the eerie cry of the Loon. After the camp season Amy went to Maine and climbed Mt. Katahdin, where she enjoyed once again the thrill of being above the treeline. Near the mountain she recorded the Orange-crowned and the Mourning Warblers.

Helen and Dorothy Peil, Vera Henderson, and Evelyn Schneider spent several weeks in the Smoky Mountains in the shadow of Mt. Le Conte, on the slopes of which they spent much of their time hiking. They saw many of the remarkable northern birds at an altitude of 5000 to 6000 feet and higher, a habitat similar to that in extreme northern United States and southern Canada. There in the spruce and fir trees they found such northern birds as the Pine Siskin, the Brown Creeper, the Winter Wren, the Carolina Junco, the Red-breasted Nuthatch, and many of the warblers, including the Black-throated Blue (Cairns's), the Chestnut-sided, the Blackburnian, and the Canada. It is hard to believe that so many northern birds can be found in summer **south** of Kentucky.

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AUDUBON WILDLIFE SCREEN TOURS

Under the auspices of the Beckham Bird Club, the Kentucky Society of Natural History, and the National Audubon Society five programs are being given this fall and winter at Louisville Male High School. On October 12, Mr. W. F. Kubichek, of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, spoke on "Haunts for the Hunted." Mr. John H. Storer, of Boston, Massachusetts, will follow on November

9 with "Wings West from Florida," showing many reels of wildlife. Mr. Bert Harwell, of Berkeley, California, National Audubon Society lecturer and its western representative, will lecture on December 7 on "Music of the Out-of-Doors." His amazing whistling ability is augmented by all-color motion pictures. Mr. Alexander Sprunt, Jr., on January 3, 1945, will present "Wonders of the Southern Wilderness." Mr. Sprunt is the Southern representative of the National Audubon Society and knows as probably no one else has ever known the swamps and marshes of the Far South. The series will conclude on February 3 with "Wildlife in Action," by Dr. Olin Sewall Pettingall, Jr., of the University of Michigan Biological Station. The Beckham Bird Club invites every one of our members who can possibly do so to attend one or more of these free lectures. No such opportunity has ever come to our society before.

BERT HARWELL

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The new officers of the Beckham Bird Club for 1944-45 are as follows: President—Audrey Wright; Vice-President—Leonard C. Brecher; Secretary-Treasurer—Marie Peiper; Directors—Ether Mason, Evelyn Schneider, and Dr. Arch Cole.

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Our K. O. S. secretary-treasurer, Miss Helen Browning, spent her 1944 vacation at Turkey Run State Park, Indiana.

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BOOK REVIEW

THE WILD TURKEY IN VIRGINIA: ITS STATUS, LIFE HISTORY AND MANAGEMENT. By Henry S. Mosby and Charles O. Handley. Vrginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries, Richmond, Virginia, 1943. 260 pages.

The Wild Turkey is the largest game bird in America and was originally found in many areas. Unfortunately it has disappeared from eighteen states and is dwindling in twenty-one other states of its range. In Kentucky, for instance, it is found in a few isolated areas, as in the Kentucky Woodlands Wildlife Refuge, in Trigg and Lyon Counties. "The history of the disappearance of the Wild Turkey in Virginia and elsewhere indicates that, when the population becomes drastically reduced the species often has great difficulty in recovering and will continue to decline despite strenuous measures taken to preserve the few remaining individuals." (pp. 23-24). The state of Virginia has probably been the most successful in working out a program to preserve its numbers. In 1938 there were approximately 2,020 flocks of Wild Turkeys, made up of about 22,575 individuals; about 34% of the area of Virginia constitutes the occupied range, whereas it is estimated that the Wild Turkey now occupies not more than 28% of its original range in the United States and Canada.

The authors present in Part I the history and status of the Wild Turkey. There are many maps, figures, and charts. They discuss the early effect of the settlement of the country and the methods of hunting. Part II deals with the life history of the turkey, bringing in many facts vital in a conservation program. These include food and flocking habits, breeding activities, and nesting losses, development, and decimating factors: man, predators, and disease. Part III discusses propagation and management of the Wild Turkey. This program calls for "(1) a well-rounded management plan to encourage the Wild Turkey, particularly on submarginal farmland reverting to forest growth, (2) a well-developed legislative program to protect the species from undue and excessive human depredation, and (3) a long-range program of restocking depleted habitat which meets the requirements of the species." (p. 44).

Mr. Mosby is Field Biologist of the Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries, and Mr. Hundley is the leader of the Virginia Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit.

—LOUISE ISFORT, Louisville.

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SHORT NOTES

SOME NEW EXPERIENCES—The discovery of new, unusual, and interesting bird facts or relationships in these days of hectic industrial activity and limited transportation facilities is not an everyday occurrence but one which brings a degree of satisfaction quite beyond the normal, since observation trips are so rare. Circumscribed as we all are in our walks afield, the Beckham Bird Club has maintained its schedule of hikes by specializing in the city parks and adjacent country areas. My most interesting find in 1944 was on April 30, when I found the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher's nest (KENTUCKY WARBLER, XX, 33). The bird had been incubating and flew off the nest as I came down a wooded hill toward the spot. The nest was placed about fifteen feet above the ground in the crotch of a slender elm sapling, and I would never have noticed it if the bird had not taken flight. Although it was in plain view from my position, so well did it blend with the tree that it was hard to locate. Other members of the party also had difficulty in locating the nest because of its blending into its setting. Then, as if the unusual situation of the nest were not enough, our group was further attracted by the appearance of a female Cowbird, which casually inspected the situation and peered into the nest. Our exclamations evidently frightened the Cowbird, for it flew away. Since we were homeward bound, we did not have time to await the return of the Gnatcatcher or to find out whether the Cowbird made a return visit.

The next item of interest was the discovery of an Acadian Flycatcher's nest over Beargrass Creek in Cherokee Park in an open wooded area, during another Beckham Bird Club trip on May 28, 1944. The semipensile nest was suspended in the forks of a drooping beech branch. It was about six feet from the bank and six feet above the water. Because of the protection of the leaves, we could not see into the nest but could make out its outline and locate its position by the numerous strands of grass which swung down loosely from one side of the nest. Here, too, the nest would have gone unnoticed if I had not observed the bird flying to it with an insect in its bill. Twice we saw the Flycatcher come with insects to the nest. We could not determine the number of the young, as we were afraid of dislodging them if we tried to swing the branch from its normal position. The Acadian Flycatcher is not a common summer resident of the Louisville area, and to our knowledge this the first nest that has been found in the park, although the birds themselves have been previously observed during the nesting season.

—LEONARD C. BRECHER, Louisville.

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BIRDS AROUND A SUMMER COTTAGE—For years my family and I have maintained a summer cottage at Park Lake, sixteen miles east of Flemingsburg, near the boundary of Lewis County. The lake covers eighteen acres and is near the large apple and peach orchards of Frank Browning. In addition to this condition I have a wild flower garden of 308 species of native plants. This is the first year that we have noticed so many species. I wonder whether the drought conditions and the presence of the orchards may have brought more than the usual numbers of species and individuals. The following fifty species were recorded between July 4 and August 12, 1944: American Egret (came into the lake on the late afternoon of August 12), Turkey Vulture, Sparrow Hawk, Bobwhite, Killdeer, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo (came into a hemlock tree near the porch late in the afternoon), Screech Owl, Barred Owl (heard one evening between five and six thirty; usually heard late at night), Whippoorwill (heard constantly in the evening from July 4 until July 29; not heard again until August 11), Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker (spent hours in a dead chestnut tree), Red-headed Woodpecker, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe (one bird spent almost the entire day diving from a small dead branch of a hickory tree near the porch), Acadian Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher (evidently in migration), Wood Pewee, Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay (plentiful), Crow, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown, Thrasher, Robin (numerous and very large-looking), Wood Thrush, Bluebird, Migrant Shrike, Red-eyed Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Orchard Oriole, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Indigo Bunting, Goldfinch (plentiful), Grasshopper Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow (?), Chipping Sparrow. The Cardinal, the Robin, and the Carolina Wren had nests in the yard. We erected a small feeding station a few feet from a dogwood tree; this was always filled with Chipping Sparrows. About 4:30 each morning the Carolina Wrens would begin their songs in a small redbud tree about three feet from the kitchen window. All the flycatchers and warblers were quite numerous.

—MRS. J. KIDWELL GRANNIS, Flemingsburg.

BIRD NOTES FROM CARTER COUNTY—As I was quite busy during the summer of 1944, my bird study was only of a general nature. However, my hurried observations were pleasant experiences. I continued to jot down notes as the season advanced. I shall attempt to set them down as they happened.

The male Red-winged Blackbirds came to the pond in early March. A few weeks later the females arrived. The Belted Kingfisher came a week later to live with the Red Wings. The petulant cries of Killdeers came from the marshes as they rose and flew gracefully about. Later the blooming apple trees resounded with the songs of Robins and Catbirds. The melody of the Brown Thrashers could be heard every day during the nesting season. A pair built their nest in a wild crabapple thicket by the roadside. Cardinals whistled in every direction, and the emphatic notes of the Yellow Warbler sounded from the elm tree where a pair nested. Myriads of Goldfinches twittered and flew about and ate weed seeds until July, when they began their nest-building. It was fascinating to hear the clear whistles of the Bobwhite at dawn. One day I followed the mournful cooing of a Mourning Dove until I located him sitting on an old rail fence. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds visited the flowerbeds frequently. One night I heard the uncanny cry of a Loon. I listened often after that but was never able to hear it again. About two weeks later I found a dead Loon near the pond. It had been shot with a .22 rifle. A pair of Indigo Buntings built in a clump of low bushes on the hillside. The male sang almost incessantly throughout the long summer days. The plaintive note of the Phoebe sounded often from the barn where it nested. I often observed the weird-looking Yellow-billed Cuckoo in the shade trees about the house. A pair of Carolina Wrens built in the smokehouse. A pair of House Wrens visited for two or three days and disputed the nesting site with the rightful owners. But the Carolina Wrens were too firmly entrenched to be ousted, and the House Wrens moved to some other place. A hollow fence post on one side of the house harbored a pair of Carolina Chickadees, and on the other side of the house a pair of Bluebirds occupied a similar nesting place. Then occasionally at night I heard the song of the Yellow-breasted Chat. One night after the song of the Chat had subsided, I heard the sonorous call of the Great Horned Owl. What a contrast! Blue Jays often called from the hillside, and sometimes I could hear the scream of the Red-shouldered Hawk. Orchard Orioles, Tufted Titmice, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, and Flickers inhabited the orchard along with the Catbirds and the Robins. The Wood Pewee lived in a near-by woodland. I often heard his call. Perhaps the most popular woodland bird lives there also, the Wood Thrush. Often at dawn and twilight I have thrilled to his flute-like song. Other birds I saw and heard were the Chipping Sparrow, the Field Sparrow, the Kingbird, both the Summer and the Scarlet Tanagers, the Red-headed Woodpecker, the Towhee, the Black and White Warbler, the Hooded Warbler, the Red-eyed Vireo, the White-eyed Vireo, the Warbling Vireo, the Starling, and the Kentucky Warbler.

—ERCEL KOZEE, Johns Run, Carter County.

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CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW IN KENTUCKY AND SOUTHERN INDIANA—In her recent article (KENTUCKY WARBLER, XX, 13-19, Spring, 1944) Miss Evelyn Schneider showed that the Chuck-will's-widow (**Antrostomus carolinensis**) is a summer resident in the southern and western parts of Kentucky but probably not in the northern and eastern parts of tthe state. The species reaches its most northern point along the knob country, a wild, wooded area. She also presented evidence that the Chuck is gradually extending its range northward and expressed a desire for further records. We are therefore offering the following occurrences.

We were camping at Tall Trees in the Otter Creek Recreational Demonstration Area on May 13, 1944. Just at dusk Whip-poor-wills began calling, and one alighted on a dead branch in a nearby tree, where in the failing light we could see the bird clearly outlined against the sky. Then we heard, so close that the first syllable was clearly distinguishable, the slower and more distinctive call of the Chuck-will's-widow. It was repeated at intervals from greater and greater distances. This is the second time that we have heard the Chuck at Otter Creek. (See Miss Schneider's article).

On June 30, 1944, we were staying at the Weeter Farm in Clark County, Indiana. At dusk from a wooded ravine close by the call of the Chuck-will's-widow came to us. This area is along the Ohio River about twenty miles northeast of Louisville. The farm is opposite Oldham County, Kentucky, where Burt Monroe heard the Chuck as reported by Miss Schneider. Mrs. W. H. Weeter, who spends nearly every weekend at the farm, says that she has heard an unusual call several times during the summer and that she is now certain that it was that of the Chuck-will's-widow. The presence of a calling male in late June is excellent evidence for a breeding record. Previous summer records for the species in Indiana appear to be confined to the extreme western part of the state along the Wabash River.

—HARVEY AND ETHEL W. LOVELL, Louisville.

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BIRDS AROUND A VICTORY GARDEN—My roommate and I grew a Victory garden in 1944. The garden plot is near a wooded section here at St. Matthews. In the evening when we are working we often hear numerous bird songs. The Mockingbird that has frequented our area once did a good imitation of the Whip-poor-will's note. A Robin built a nest on the window ledge of an apartment opposite ours. The occupants of the apartment left their Venetian blinds down so as not to disturb the birds. We could watch the parents feed the young. The apartments are of brick, and vines grow around the windows. One of my friends reported that a Mourning Dove built her nest in the gutter above the downspout. When the water ran down, it was underneath the nest and did not harm the eggs.

—THELMA GENTRY, St. Matthews.

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BITTERN MEETS POET—I am all excited over a new bird that I have just identified; at least he is new to me. A little while before sunset yesterday (July 20, 1944) Mr. Semple and I drove out scenic highway No. 109 and parked our car near a bridge on the picturesque levee, which is fringed with dense bottomland woods on either side. In the slough-like depressions, where dredges had excavated the dirt to build the levee, water stood several feet deep, despite the drouth. It was teeming with minnows, frogs, crawfish, and other small aquatic life. We were sitting perfectly relaxed in the car, enjoying a chorus of Wood Thrushes, whose clear and bell-like music pealed out in penetrating and vibrating notes. At the same time we were being serenaded by the rippling warbles of a number of Indigo Buntings. Suddenly I detected that what I had at first taken for a sharp snag sticking up at the edge of the flat was really a bird. Not a muscle did the tawny-brown and buff-freckled fellow move as he stood, apparently waiting for prey to come within striking distance. By that time we had our binoculars focused on him, when he moved and suddenly snapped and gulped a minnow. Meanwhile we identified him as an American Bittern. For an hour or more we watched him as he posed as a stump or as he walked sedately down the marshy edge of the muddy flat all alone, treading out a delectable dinner of minnows, frogs, and what-have-you. Once he bellowed a most unmusical "pump-er-lunk," which amused us very much. Do you wonder that I came home and wrote this sonnet:

TO A BITTERN

He is a gawky, stupid-looking bird:
His head is flat, his legs are short, his toes
And bill are long; his pose appears absurd
As he stands rigid-still and seems to doze.
His plumage is a tawny brown, disguised
To blend with his environment; he makes
A droning, trumping noise, as if surprised,
And keeps a watchful eye for fish and snakes.
Past master at concealment, he can stand
Unnoticed for an hour among the reeds
And rushes; but, in truth, his aim is planned
To scan the shallow water where he feeds.
He relishes a minnow or a frog . . . .
The Bittern is the genius of the bog!

—SUE WYATT SEMPLE, Providence.

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NOTES ON THE SUMMER RANGE OF THE SONG SPARROW AND THE HOUSE WREN AT HARRODSBURG, KENTUCKY—From the reports of 112 short field trips made in the vicinity of Harrodsburg, Kentucky, during the three-year period extending from May 1, 1940, to May 1, 1943, I have concluded that the southern boundary of the breeding range of the Song Sparrow (**Melospiza melodia** subsp) extends at least this far. The Song Sparrow was recorded on 44 of the 112 trips. Twelve of these records were for the months of June, July, and August and were all in possible nesting habitats (near water courses, in low swampy ground, etc.) The twelve records are as follows:

June 7, 1940, 3 individuals; June 9, 1940, several individuals; June 13, 1940, 1 individual; June 18, 1941, 2 individuals; June 19, 1941, 2 individuals; June 22, 1941, common; July 25, 1941, common; August 8, 1941, 1 individual; August 20, 1941, 1 individual (dead); June 4, 1942, 1 individual; July 5, 1942, 2 individuals; August 9, 1942, 1 individual.

These records when compared with those of the other nine months of each of the other three years show that the Song Sparrow was equally common as a summer resident and as a winter resident.

The House Wren (**Troglodytes aedon** subsp.) was not recorded except on May 4, 1941, and May 3, 1943, probably as a migrant and probably does not occur this far south as a summer resident. The types of habitats used by the House Wren farther north (bird boxes, gourds, ledges, and cervices around man-made structures) are generally inhabited here by the Bewick's Wren (**Thryomanes bewicki** subsp.), which is the common breeding wren south of the House Wren's range, excluding, of course, the Carolina Wren.

—ALEX VAN ARSDALL, Harrodsburg.

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A NEW BIRD FOR GLASGOW—On April 29, 1944, while I was waiting for a bus at Glasgow, I walked out the Burkesville Road, East Main Street. Near Franklin Street I was suddenly aware of a warbler note that was new to me. I soon located the bird with my glasses; it was high in a maple tree. By degrees it dropped down until it was not more than fifteen feet from me and very plainly visible in the bright sunlight. I studied it for ten minutes or more at this close range, comparing it with the figure and description in Peterson's guide. This is my first record of this species. I wonder why I have not heard its distinctive notes or seen it before.

—Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green.

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YOUNG NIGHTHAWKS IN NEST OF ANOTHER SPECIES

Early in July, 1943, I noticed that two Nighthawks kept circling over my back yard at 308 South Sixth Street, Louisville. One morning when I came into the yard, one of the birds almost dashed into my face and then fluttered down to the ground and out of my reach as if it were injured. I immediately concluded that it had a nest near by. My next-door neighbor told me that there were some strange birds in a nest in a lilac bush beside his garage. We examined the bush and found the nest five or six feet from the ground, a nest built of large sticks, leaves, and grass, with a soft lining. Two young birds were in the nest and fairly well feathered. In another week they had flown away, after spending some time exercising their wings. It had always been my idea that the Nighthawk nests on the ground.

—J. R. MEADOR, Louisville.

(My experience leads me to believe that the birds had been hatched on a roof near the lilac and had fluttered down into the deserted nest of a Cardinal or a Brown Thrasher. I have seen young Nighthawks on our campus at Western on the paths or walks and unable to fly more than a yard or two; just how they got down from the nest on the roof I do not know. —Editor).

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ALBINO ROBIN AT MARION—On May 19, 1944, Mrs. Vance Haynes called me to tell me that she had captured a white Robin in her yard. I immediately went to her home and found that she had an immature albino Robin. It had been out the nest only a short time and could not fly very well. I examined the nest and also the bird and positively identified it as a Robin. Of the three birds in this brood two were albinos. The eyes, bill, feet, and legs were a beautiful pink. All feathers were snow-white. I called Curry Nichols, an amateur photographer friend of mine, who came immediately with his outfit and a lot of enthusiasm and made some pictures. He said it was the greatest thrill he had had out of his hobby. (The doctor enclosed one of the pictures of the albino for the editor to see. —Ed).

—Dr. T. Atchison Frazer, Marion.

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CHRISTMAS CENSUSES

For many years we K. O. S. members have taken an annual Christmas Bird Census and have published our finds in the winter issue of the WARBLER. The editor is eager for as many censuses as possible this Chritmas. Stay out all day, count every species and every individual bird. Then write up your trip, telling where you went, something about the weather, and the names of all the people in your party. Please mail your censuses by or before January 1, so the report can be made ready for publication early in the new year.

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THANKS FOR THE SHORT NOTES

As you have noticed, there are a great many short notes in this issue. Thanks to all who have sent them. Please send more. The WARBLER should represent as many of our members as possible. Surely you have had some experience with birds that would interest the rest of us.

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